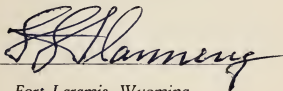


THIS IS NUMBER

817

OF 1500 COPIES

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "S. H. Hamner", written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Fort Laramie, Wyoming.

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Vol. 1

JOHN HUNTON'S DIARY

* * *

ECH OES FROM 1875

(With a Glimpse at 1873)



JOHN HUNTON
(1839-1928)

Virginia Gentleman —
Wyoming Pioneer

* * *

THIS WORK is presented in the hope that it will help preserve a true picture of day by day living on the frontier and other accurate details of Wyoming's early history and development.

Foreword

* * *

Physical Description of the Diaries

* * *

1 8 7 3

MARCH:

Cheyenne's Eagle House Block Burns.
Indians Restless Along the Chug.

APRIL:

Ranchers On Constant Lookout for Indians.
White Clay Mail Carrier Killed.
Bull Train Hauls 75,000 Pounds Freight
Per Trip.
Rings for Lallee.
Gift Wagons from Jules Ecoffee No Account.
Echoes from the Modoc War.
Stage Coach Stalled, Soldier Freezes, in
Blizzard.
General Grant and Family Visit Cheyenne.

MAY:

A Loan from Hi Kelly.
Deep Snow from Bear Springs to Cheyenne.
Cheyenne to Omaha by Train \$31.
The Mystery of Little Mary.
Early Oil Discovery Near Teapot Dome.

1 8 7 5

JANUARY:

A Blue Financial Outlook.

Lucky at Cards.

Trouble in Louisiana.

Sawing Beef Like Ice at 51 Below Zero.

Government Pays Eight Cents for Meat.

Bids \$1680 Per Annum on Mail Route from
Medicine Bow to Ft. Fetterman.

FEBRUARY:

History of Bordeaux.

The Murder of Baptiste Ladeau.

Six Mile Ranch Favorite Spot for Killings.

Cy Williams Sells His Life Dearly.

Missouri Jim Frosts His Ears and Gets a
Grubstake.

Jim Harwood, John Boyd Go for Black-
smith, Return Slightly Inebriated.

Roundup in Goshen Hole.

Jim Hunton Out All Night Looking for
Ponies.

Driving "Painted Horn" Beeves to Ft.
Fetterman.

Lallee's Allowance.

MARCH:

102 Cow Hides a Heavy Load, Sell for \$5.50
Each in Cheyenne.

Gold Excitement and Trouble Brewing in
the Black Hills.

APRIL:

- Pants for Three Brothers, \$35.
- Butcher's Wage \$50 per Month.
- Why 80-year-old Bridge Across Platte is Still Sturdy.
- Wins Chairs in Raffle, Trades with Speed Stagner for Rug.
- A Bad Night at Cards.
- Butcher Fisher Has the Quinzy.
- Broken Legs for Ward and Jim Lane.
- "Numpa" Says Indians Will Fight for Black Hills.
- An Adventure With Lallee.

MAY:

- A Peace Conference That Failed.
- Spring Roundup.
- Brooks Sells Out to Guiterman (or Getermann).
- Charles E. Clay, Hunton's Contemporary.
- A Military Expedition.

JUNE:

- Walker & Johnson Gather 934 Beeves.
- Indians Steal Horses on Rock Creek and Laramie Plains.
- Gathering Wire Near Old Fort Casper.
- Cavalry Unable to Cross Platte, Returns to Ft. Fetterman.
- Horse Racing and Liquor.
- Griffin's Ranch Burned.

JULY:

- A Master Wagon Maker.
- Eleven Bull Teams on the Road.
- A Meeting at the Natural Bridge.

Surveyor Hammond Recovers Stolen Horse.
History of Bridger's Ferry.
Mrs. W. G. Bullock, Descendant of George
Washington.
Lallee Goes Visiting.
Gen. Crook Passes North.

AUGUST:

Telegraph to Fetterman Down.
Indians Steal Malcomb Campbell's Horses.
Kill Old Man.
Haying on Box Elder and the Chug.
Whitehead Prospecting Party See Indians,
Come to Hunton's Ranch.
Exodus of Officers from Ft. Fetterman.
Making Adobe Brick.
Tom Hunton Survives Serious Illness.
Indian Commission at Ft. Laramie.

SEPTEMBER:

Three Steers for \$100.
Six Weeks Provisions for Hay Crew.
Jules Ecoffey Robbed in Cheyenne.
Election at 3-Mile Ranch, Lallee Votes Too.
Lallee Ill on LaPrele, Dr. Gibson Attends
Her.
Indians Ugly at Agency Council, Kill Man
on Laramie, Attack Hay Train at Bridger's
Ferry, Cavalry Sent Out.

OCTOBER:

Lallee Recovers, Returns to Bordeaux.
Bullock and Phillips Bondsman for Hunton.
Bull Calves \$38, Steers 3c Pound.

A Boil Where It Hurts, Especially on
Horseback.

Swan Buys Cattle on LaBonte.

Freight Business Hits Slump, Bull Trains Go
After Poles.

Cheyenne and Arapahoe Indians Visit Ft.
Fetterman.

Butchering and Making Sausage.

Powell, Smith and Lord Haul Military
Baggage.

Two Pioneers in Their Later Years.

NOVEMBER:

A Bargain To Hold Hay Bottom.

Log Floor for Malcomb Campbell's House.

26 Work Cattle Lost, Train Rumbles on
With Remaining 64.

Women and Trouble at Fisher's, "Cully"

Lands in Guard House, Roe in Hospital.

Bargains at Quarter Master's Sale.

Jim Sanders Brings Gold out of Black Hills,
Worth \$19.45 an Ounce.

New Iron Bridge Across Platte at Fort
Laramie Nears Completion.

A Telegram About Mary.

DECEMBER:

The Story of Little Bat.

An Elk Hunt in 1875.

* * *

Chronological Index of Names

* * *

Distance Tables — Maps

FOREWORD

JOHN HUNTON was born at Madison C. H. (the C. H. being for court house or county seat), Virginia on January 18, 1839 of Alexander B. and Mary Elizabeth (Carpenter) Hunton. Little is known of his childhood. He joined the army at 18 and saw his first military service at Harper's Ferry in 1859.

Madison was in that borderland between the North and South where the cleavage of loyalties split families, set brother against brother and father against son. Hunton chose the South. He was with Pickett at the charge of Gettysburg and served with the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia until Lee surrendered at Appomattox.

With his homeland overrun and devastated John Hunton turned his eyes Westward and in the spring of 1867 traveled, via St. Louis and Glasgow, to Nebraska City. From there he whacked bulls on to Fort Laramie, bastion of the plains and headquarters of military operations against the Indian tribes. There he worked for several years as a clerk in the Sutler's store at the old fort, which was to be "home" for the young Virginian for most of the rest of his life.

That first winter, 1867, he shared a room with the famous scout, Jim Bridger, who had been employed by the government to guide our troops. They occupied the north east corner

room of the Sutler's building which was being used as a small hay mow when Mr. Hunton pointed it out to the writer about 1919. At that time the north end of this historic building, made of adobe bricks and understood to be the first permanent structure in what is now the state of Wyoming, was a horse barn. It has since been restored and preserved by the National Parks Service. But in 1919 the main room of the old store still had its counters along the walls, there were still some articles of ancient merchandise on its dusty shelves, bundles of undelivered letters in its abandoned postoffice and a stack of buffalo hides, rotted with age until they tore apart like tissue paper, were piled in one corner of the room from floor to ceiling.

In 1870 Hunton took a contract to supply Fort Laramie with fire wood, and his government contracts expanded steadily during the next ten years into big business for that period. In addition to wood he supplied hay, beef, charcoal, lime and other commodities to Fort Fetterman and Camp McKinney as well as to Fort Laramie, and hauled freight with oxen from Medicine Bow Station to Fetterman, Ft. Steele, Ft. Phil Kearney, Ft. Reno, Ft. Smith and other early military installations.

In 1871 he became half owner, in partnership with W. G. Bullock, of the SO cattle, understood to be the first herd in this area, aside from work oxen. This herd, according to Hunton, was started in 1868 by a man named Mills

who brought the stock from northern Kansas. Hunton also recalled that the second herd of cattle was the Circle Block brand on Horse Creek, some 50 miles northeast of Cheyenne, owned by Edward Creighton.

But it was not until January 1, 1875 that Hunton began to tell in his own words the day by day story of his life and experiences. It is a many sided story: of the cattle industry since its inception in Wyoming; the last of the Indian wars; the passing of the stage coach and the building of the railroads; the disaster of the 80's which spelled finis for the early cattle barons; range wars and homesteading; the gradual development of irrigation, farming and modern ranching; of history, politics and government.

It is the story of the life and passing of a fascinating generation, a breed of men and women whose lives were often hard but seldom dull. Perhaps no other man knew that life better than John Hunton or recorded it in such careful detail. He also knew the men and women who made the history of his day, and they knew and respected him.

Hunton was the last post trader at old Fort Laramie; he was one of the first and also one of the last commissioners of Laramie county when it embraced the present counties of Goshen and Platte. Most of the early settlers in that area proved up on their homesteads before him when he was United States Commissioner from 1892 to 1907. As a civil engineer, largely self-taught, he participated in the original

survey of north central and western Wyoming when it was mostly an uncharted wilderness area, and he planned and surveyed many of the earliest private reservoirs and irrigation systems in southeastern Wyoming.

But above all Hunton's is the rather bleak story of a man's life in which there seems to have been but little room for either the luxury of weakness or the softness of warmth; and of his love for two women from worlds that were far apart, and who were perhaps as different as any two women can be.

The first — Lallee. A French-Indian girl, child of the wild and a sister of Baptiste Garnier (Little Bat).

She is reputed to have been one of the most beautiful women in the territory. There are dim glimpses of their companionship and roamings together, and stark pictures of emotional shock from events which led to their separation.

The second — Blanche. A beautiful southern girl, less than half his years, with whose youth and charm the middle aged Hunton fell in love at first sight on a visit to his birthplace. The story of their strange and often strained marriage, beset as it was with many of the problems which sometimes arise when autumn weds spring; and of how they stuck it out together to the end of the road, despite chasms of difference in temperament and years, to at last draw closer again when the dusk of age settled about them. The writer will never forget Blanche's touching devotion and her

constant care of John Hunton in his last almost blind and helpless years.

It is also a tale of life's never ceasing frustrations for one who seeks perfection; of how a strong man's hopes and ambitions were gradually dimmed and dulled to death by the inexorable years. A story of life as it frequently is, uncolored and unsoftened.

Although sometimes harsh in his judgment of others, especially those closest to him, John Hunton was also sternly just to the best of his light and understanding, and he did not spare himself. He is best remembered by those who knew him for his integrity of character and accurate knowledge of early Wyoming history.

When he made it known that he was leaving his diaries to the writer it was requested that the late Dr. Grace Raymond Hebard, Wyoming historian and head of the State University's department of history, be named joint custodian. After Mr. Hunton's death Dr. Hebard and the writer examined the books and agreed they should be laid aside for a quarter century. Now we sometimes wonder if that was long enough. These diaries, a separate book for each year, total more than fifty volumes. They were kept by Dr. Hebard until her death and then delivered to the writer who placed them in a bank vault until the 25-year waiting period was up.

During his later years John Hunton became increasingly reluctant to talk for publica-

tion with reporters and writers who visited old Fort Laramie to interview him. He rather bitterly resented people weaving bits and pieces of what he said into tales of their own liking, regardless of how skillfully the job was done. He wanted his words put down exactly as they were written or spoken. That was his rule, for he was a blunt and factual man. It is a rule with which we have tried to keep faith. Much that is repetitious and superfluous has been omitted in the editing of his journal, but nothing has been changed, smoothed down or glossed over.

We assume Mr. Hunton could have had but one reason for deliberately permitting these records to survive him — a desire to preserve from oblivion the true story of his life and his day. With that thought in mind we have prepared and present this work.

—L. G. (Pat) Flannery

DIARIES MADE TO LAST

THE BOOKS in which Mr. Hunton kept his early journals deserve a few words. From 1875 until 1900 they are almost identical in form and quality, the only differences being slight variations in color and changes in the printed information they contain. A physical description of the 1875 diary (actually printed for the year 1874) should suffice for all.

This book is 3 x 6 inches in size and solidly bound with a double leather cover. The outside cover has weathered to a deep brown, the inside one retains its natural light-tan freshness and has two leather pockets, front and back. When the double flap of the outside cover is tucked into its slot the entire book is well protected against weather and rough treatment when carried in a man's pocket or saddle bag, as this one certainly was on many a rugged journey.

The pages are gold edged, unfaded, crisp and full of "life" and made of paper built to withstand the effects of water. In fact, the fly-leaf proclaims the paper to be a "Patent Erasable Surface, Patented October 24th, 1865. Use a soft pencil and erase with moisture." Hunton made his entries with both ink and pencil, depending apparently on whether he was at home or camped on the trail. And not a leaf in the book is loose from the binding. We do not believe many present day papers or bindings possess the same lasting qualities.

The first 35 pages of small print summarize much information an up-and-coming young men of that day needed to know. It is mostly given over to almanac data including: the differences in time between New York and other principal cities of the world; phases of the moon; information about the stars; sunup and sundown time for every day of the year in different sections; interest tables; postage rates, 3 cents for a half ounce letter, no package over 4 pounds, and none of this reduced rate business for newspapers, etc. — they paid one cent for each and every two ounces, books two cents per ounce.

Three pages are devoted to showing the value of the gold and silver coins of forty seven foreign countries in terms of dollars, cents and mills. No mention is made of currency. They also show how the pages of history turn — twenty one of the forty seven countries named no longer exist as sovereign states. Some of their names are no longer even familiar to many persons living today. Here are three examples: the silver Dbl. thaler of Wurtemberg was worth \$1.39; the silver florin of Hesse Darmstadt, 39 cents 5 mills, while a gold doubloon of New Granada would bring you \$15.61. And, conversely, many governments mentioned most prominently in today's news were yet unborn.

In the back of the book there is plenty of room for memoranda and a "cash account" page for each month.

A GLANCE AT 1873

Before settling down seriously to the business of keeping a daily journal in 1875, Mr. Hunton apparently flirted with the idea and made sporadic moves in that direction. The earliest diary he left behind was for the year 1873, but most of its pages are blank. Only from March 26 to May 12 did he faithfully apply himself. The brief glimpse he gives us of that year is as follows:

"Wed, Mar 26 — (Fort Laramie). Mr. White, Indian Superintendent, visited Red Cloud Agency. Went to Fort Laramie with Jew and Squaw. Indian excitement. Cavalry out after them.

"Thurs, Mar 27 — (Bordeaux on the Chug). Returning from Fort with Squaw nothing heard of Indians. Cavalry still out. Party at Cuny's on the look out. Very windy. White horse sick when we got home. Jules Ecoffey give me 9 wagons and four mowers at North Platte.

"Fri, Mar 28 — (Bordeaux). Caught two beaver. Sam and Mason after ox yoke timber. Fire in Cheyenne, Eagle House Block burned.

"Sat. Mar 29 — (Bordeaux). Wrote W. L. Kuykendall; Gen. Perry; Piniston & Miller, North Platte; G. Clark; Lt. Taylor; Chas. Trabing; D. R. Clay. Cox, Yates and party went to Cheyenne. Quaker White staid all night.

"Sun, Mar 30 — (Bordeaux). John Sechler moved to Chugg. Sent five ox wagons to Cheyenne by C. Hecht. Dan caught one large beaver.

"Thurs, Apr 3 — (Bordeaux). Sam and I got one load poles. Caught one beaver. George Clark returned from Cheyenne, lost 5 days. Borrowed keg of nails from John Owens. On look out for Indians constantly. Williams saw pony tracks near lower crossing.

"Fri, Apr 4 — (Bordeaux). Sam & Jim got load of poles. Dan Titus started to Laramie River to fence hay bottom, took six beaver traps. Mason has mules & wagon to get timber for yokes. Snowing all day.

"Sat, Apr 5 — (Bordeaux). Coach brought news of White Clay mail carrier being killed by Indians. Two ponies shot with arrows at 6 Mile Ranch. Started to Cheyenne on Coach. Stopped all night at (Hi) Kelly's. Williams and my own rifles to be repaired \$75.25 in cash. Snowed all day.



Following the original publication of the above entry Mrs. Joe Schneider, of Hay Springs, Nebraska wrote: ". . . you had a question mark behind the name of White Clay. Could this be White Clay, Nebraska, in Sheridan County? It is located north of Rushville on the So. Dakota line . . . 3 miles south of the

Pine Ridge Indian Reservation." We think it a good bet that it could be, but we can't prove it.

— — —

"Sun, Apr 6 — (Enroute to Cheyenne). 6½ A.M. Snowed all night and still snowing. Stopped snowing 1 P.M. Dined at Horse Creek. Gave Frank Yates Denny Reagon's note to M. B. George to collect. Staid all night at Pole Creek. Recd rings from Miller by Yates. (See memorandum following May 12 entry).

"Mon, Apr 7 — (Cheyenne). Arrived in Cheyenne 11 A.M. Sent rifles to Friend (?). Got Stephens' "War of the Sections" from O'Brien, price \$9.00.

"Tues, Apr 8 — (Cheyenne). Saw Q. M. Moore about Med. Bow freight. Wrote to Gen. Perry could carry 300000 lbs. in 4 trips of 75000 lbs. each.

"Wed, Apr 9 — (Cheyenne). Wagons have not arrived on account of snow. Tom arrived in Cheyenne. Paid Dave Miller for rings \$44.00.

"Sat, Apr 12 — (Cheyenne.) Telegraphed Piniston & Miller (North Platte) to find out about wagons. (See Mar. 27 entry). Recd ans. wagons no account. Hired buggy and went to Depot. Accomplished but little. Brown arrived in Cheyenne and was married. 5 P.M. heard of Gen. Canby's and Commissioners death."

That reference to the death of Gen. Canby and the Commissioners is an echo from the Modoc Indian war, one of the strangest in history, in which a handful of Indians in the "Lava Beds" of California set the U. S. Army back on its heels hard. The Lava Beds-area is now a National Monument and the National Park Service tells this story in one of its bulletins:

THE MODOC WAR

"THE Modoc War of 1872-73 was one of the most costly Indian campaigns engaged in by the United States. In the fall of 1872, a small band of Modoc Indians under a leader commonly known as Captain Jack, dissatisfied with their banishment to a reservation which they were forced to share with their hereditary foes, the Klamaths, clashed with a body of United States cavalry near Lost River just north of the California-Oregon line. Several soldiers and citizen volunteers were killed, and the victorious Indians escaped. Renegades from other Indian tribes joined the band, and after raiding the adjoining settlements they retreated to the natural lava bed fortress now known as Captain Jack's Stronghold. Here this ragged band of Indians, numbering only 71 fighting men at their greatest strength, fought two battles with a white force of soldiers and volunteers many times superior in numbers.

"On April 11, 1873, Gen. E. R. S. Canby was killed during a parley with the Indian leaders under a flag of truce. The Indians then were driven from their stronghold into the more open country to the south. Here, two weeks later, in a battle known as The Thomas Massacre, they won another victory when two-thirds of the white command was killed or wounded and four of the five leading officers met death.

"The last big battle, and the only major engagement resulting in a victory for the white troops during the entire 6 months' campaign, was fought at Dry Lake on May 10, 1873. A few weeks afterward Captain Jack was captured, and in October he and three other leaders of the band were hanged at Fort Klamath.

"Unlike the usual savage bands of early western history, these Indians were not decked out in a panoply of war bonnets and beaded buckskins, but dressed in white men's clothing, spoke the white men's tongue, and were accustomed to white men's ways. Although obliged to care for their women and children and live off the country, at the same time they held at bay for months an army of regular soldiers and volunteers of many times their numbers.

"It is only when one has looked over the battlegrounds, seen the natural rock

trenches and caves in which the Indians lived, and the adaptability of the country for offense and defense to a foe familiar with the terrain, that it is possible to realize how the weaker side could be so long the aggressor and victor.

"The battlegrounds of the Modoc Indian War are practically the same today as they were in 1873. Rock forts, used by Indians and white troops alike, still mark the scene of the struggle, and bits of rotting leather and bleached bones of animals are yet found on the ground."

"Sun, Apr 13 — (Cheyenne). Severe snow storm all day, with wind. Coach arrived after night. George Arnold on it. Cleared up about dark. Recd letter from sister.

"Mon, Apr 14 — (Cheyenne). Heavy wind. Snow flying. Soldier froze to death.

"Wed, Apr 16 — (Enroute to Bordeaux) Started home on Coach. Staid at (Hi) Kelly's all night. Denison & Dines promised to go to Medicine Bow to freight. McKinstry comcd driving.

"Tues, Apr 29 — (Cheyenne). Gen. Grant, wife and daughter, Gens. Babcock & Harney went East. Telegram Modocs killed Capt. Thomas, Lts. Wright & Howe & 20 men.

"Wed, Apr 30 — (Cheyenne). 9 A.M. snowed all night and still snowing and blowing very hard. Hired Joseph Marks to cook. Coach did not leave. Severe storm all day.

"Mon, May 5 — (Enroute to Bordeaux). Finished wagons, got rations, had white horses shod. Started home 1.5 P.M. Joe & Charly Clay with me.

"Tues, May 6 — (Bordeaux). Arrived home 1.50 A.M. Discharged Clark.

"Sat, May 10 — (Enroute to Cheyenne). Started to Cheyenne with Phillips (cash 18\$) on way to Omaha to bid on contracts. Jules Ecoffey passed. Borrowed 200\$ of (Hi) Kelly.

"Sun, May 11 — (Cheyenne). Staid at Kelly's all night. Nooned at Horse Creek. Arrived in Cheyenne at 5 P.M. Deep snow all the way from Bear Springs to Cheyenne.

"Mon, May 12 — Started to Omaha. Ticket 31\$.

May 12 was the last regular entry in John Hunton's diary for 1873, but he made a notation in the back of the book which raises this question —

WHO WAS MARY?

On one of the "Memoranda" pages of the 1873 diary is this intriguing entry:

<i>"Apr 5 — For Lallee.</i>	}	<i>Mary</i>
<i>1 Pr. Childrens Shoes</i>		
<i>2 Pr. White " "</i>		
<i>8 yds Bleach Muslin</i>		
<i>1 Small Shawl</i>		
<i>Ear & Finger Rings</i>		
<i>Nice dress</i>		
<i>Bonnet</i>		
<i>Black Dress</i>		
<i>Lead Colored Dress</i>		
<i>Turquoise Beads</i>		
<i>1 Ps 1-in. Blk Velvet Rib.</i>		
<i>1 Ps Narrow " " "</i>		
<i>Buttons"</i>		

So far in our study of this journal we have found no definite clue to the identity of "Mary" — no word as to who she was or whatever became of her. Perhaps she is destined to always remain a misty, mysterious little figure in the background of John Hunton's early life.

AND IS THIS GIRL LALLEE?



Pioneer Harold J. Cook Answers "Yes"

There is to mystery as to the identity of Lallee, the beautiful French-Indian girl who was Hunton's companion during his early years on the frontier. She was a sister of Baptiste (Little Bat), one of General Crook's most trusted scouts, and Hunton's Road Ranch at Bordeaux was "home" for Little Bat from his early boyhood. Although the romance with Lallee was eventually shattered by events which this journal will show, the close friendship between Hunton and Little Bat remained steadfast to the end of the road.

The above photograph was discovered several years ago at Madison, Virginia, Hun-

ton's birthplace, in an old trunk containing various other photographs, papers and mementos which he had preserved. It was taken, according to printing on the back, by "Kirkland, 292 Ferguson Street, Cheyenne, Wyoming." The larger original photograph shows more clearly the straight, black hair, dark eyes and complexion, the elaborate feathery head dress, ear rings of horse shoe and quirt design, necklace of beads and the bright patterned costume with its large, beaded buttons — all of which may well have been some of that finery mentioned in Mr. Hunton's memorandum of April 5. Sometimes the question is asked, why did so many of our pioneers become squaw men? If this indeed be Lallee it seems like a silly question in Mr. Hunton's case.

We are indebted for this photograph and other courtesies to Miss Mary B. Taylor, who lived with Mr. and Mrs. Hunton for a number of years at old Fort Laramie when she was a young girl, long after it had been abandoned as a military post. Her hospitality to the writer went so far as to include a delicious southern fried chicken dinner served in the beautiful old house, furnished with priceless antiques, where Miss Mary and her sister make their home in Madison.

Our belief that this is a likeness of Lallee was strengthened by a letter received from pioneer Harold J. Cook, of Agate, Nebraska, after he saw the photograph. Following are excerpts from Mr. Cook's letter of March 16, 1955:

"Dear Mr. Flannery:

". . . My father, James H. Cook (whose book, 'Fifty Years on the Old Frontier,' pub. by Yale University Press you may have seen) knew John Hunton, Lallee and most of the men mentioned in his most interesting diary.

"Lallee worked for us . . . on our ranch here when I was a boy, in the early 90's . . . I knew her very well and have jotted down many reminiscences about her during that period.

"I am almost certain that the picture published (above) . . . is Lallee. It is so like her as I knew her it could hardly be anyone else, save that she is younger in this picture . . . the eyes, the conformation of the head and the expression on her face ARE Lallee. As I remember her . . . she was still a very fine, striking looking woman . . . very large and robust . . . and a *powerful* woman.

"I have seen her do many things that took more muscle than most men have, and do them easily. Her white and Indian blood seemed to crop out at different times in different ways, in what she liked to do and how she did them. She still had some of the things she had when she lived with Hunton, when she was here. Of course father and mother knew her then and, within limits, she would often talk

of those days with them when the mood . . . happend to hit her.

"While she could and would at times dress up as white women do, she generally preferred to wear moccasins, that she made herself. She was an expert at leather work and tanning and in doing exceptional "beady work" as she called it, which she taught my mother to do. We have some of her bead work here now.

"I have that picture on my desk . . . and the more I study it the more certain I am that this is Lallee . . . I know she often went to Cheyenne in those days. We also have photos of others taken by "Kirkland" (whose trade name is on the back of the picture in question) and I know we *did* have photos of Lallee taken here. I am going to go through old photos we have in storage here . . . and see if we can find some of them."

(Omitting a few bouquets Mr. Cook was kind enough to throw our way, he closed his letter with the following statement:)

"I am particularly sorry that my father could not have seen this before he passed away, as I know what a great kick he would have gotten from it; and it would certainly have stirred up many old memories in him, now lost.

"Sincerely yours,

HAROLD J. COOK"

I am sorry too, Mr. Cook.—L. G. F.

*EARLY OIL DISCOVERY
AT TEAPOT DOME*

Thumbing through a box of John Hunton's letters and papers we came upon a manuscript, written on pencil tablet paper in his hand, concerning an adventure which apparently took place at or near Teapot Rock, in an area destined to later become one of the world's largest light oil producing fields — and a household word during the great Teapot Dome Naval Oil Reserve scandal of the Harding administration. Here is Mr. Hunton's story:

*Early Scouts for Oil Strike Indians
and Vamoose*

"In 1873 or 1874, I am not certain which year but think 1873, I was hauling freight for the U.S. from Medicine Bow Station on the U.P.R.R. to Fort Fetterman. My home ranch was at Bordeaux but I spent much of my time at Fetterman. In the late summer or early fall of the year Michell Lajuenesse, a half breed Indian, told me and others that while on a hunt north of Casper he saw a place on the ground where there was oil on top of the dirt and that he scraped some of it up and cleaned it by warming and used it to grease his wagon.

"The subject was occasionally spoken of until finally he, Baptiste Garnier and myself rigged up an outfit and went

on the hunt for the place. We went from Fetterman to Fort Casper and Crossed the Platte river just below where the bridge stood and went northward about 25 or 30 miles we judged. About night the day of leaving Casper we came to a little stream and went into camp.

"Next morning Mr. Lajuenesse showed "Bat" and I where he had scraped up the oil and as I recollect it was in a sort of swale not far from some chalky small hills or bluffs. We went to work and each one had scraped up a small quantity of the stuff when about 25 or 30 Arapahoe Indians suddenly came upon us, but in a friendly way.

"They held a few minutes conversation with Lajuenesse, who understood their language, and disappeared as suddenly as they had appeared. Lajuenesse told me the Indians had ordered us away and for us not to come back. We immediately started and did not stop until we had crossed to the south side of the Platte river.

"The three of us had gathered a quart bottle more than half full of the stuff after most of the dirt and gravel had been separated from it. A short time — eight or ten days after we got back to Fetterman I took the bottle of oil to Medicine Bow Station and left it with Mr. Wm. H. Taylor to be examined to ascer-

tain if it was valuable. Lajuenesse and I paid no further attention to it and so the matter dropped.

"Some 10 or 12 years ago (we do not know when this was written) I met Mr. Taylor in Cheyenne and in reminiscing over old times this "bottle" came up. He told me that when he was packing up the office fixtures at Medicine Bow Station in 1876 to move them to Rockcreek Station he found this bottle of oil among the old rubbish he was moving and took it to Rockcreek but did not take further care of it and could not tell what finally became of it.

"When I saw and talked with Mr. Taylor he was living in Denver. 'Mick' Lajuenesse and Baptiste Garnier are dead. I could elaborate the foregoing statements with many details but have given all the essential facts."

Since Mr. Hunton to our knowledge left no record of the year 1874 we shall now take up his journal for 1875.

IT WAS NOT a particularly Happy New Year's Day for John Hunton. His debts loomed large and although he was still full of fight his financial future did not look bright to him as he sat himself down to pen the first entry in this daily journal he was destined to keep for more than half a century.

"Fryday, Jan 1 — (Fort Fetterman). Butchering since 17th Dec. Went to Milk Ranch. Snowed in the afternoon. By looking over my books and guessing together I find that I owe between 16,000 and 17,000 dollars, as memorandum of this book will show."

In other written records Hunton states he established a "Milk Ranch" at La Prele in 1874, and also recalls that Malcomb Campbell built a house that same year on Hunton's SO ranch on the Box Elder.

The memorandum to which he refers above is written in the back of the book and reads as follows:

"As near as I can guess I owe the following persons the amt opposite their names to this day, January 1st, 1875, about 16,000\$ in all.

<i>E. Nagle</i>	<i>(P 500)</i>	<i>\$ 1520.00</i>
<i>L. Mumin</i>		<i>275.00</i>
<i>Henry Housman</i>		<i>130.00</i>
<i>S. F. Nuckolls</i>		<i>834.00</i>
<i>P. L. Wilson</i>	<i>1500\$</i>	<i>2250.00</i>

Marks & Meyers	387.25
T. E. Kent (40)	60.00
H. Hellman about	250.00
Addoms & Gloves	25.00
T. Dyer	52.00
H. H. Ellis	33.00
Peter Smith	20.00
H. Hass	460.00
G. D. Fogelsong & Co.	70.00
S. Bon	50.00
Schweigart	3.50
W. M. Ward	6.00
G. E. Thompson	23.00
T. C. Whipple 1.50	180.00
David Miller	8.00
Converse & Warren	20.00
M. E. Post	57.00
E. L. Gallatin & Co.	53.00
Tracy & Whitney	27.00
Stephens & Wilcox	256.00
Sam Young	44.00
Chas. Hall	31.00
Sam Groves	1600.00
James Hunton	1260.00
Thomas Hunton	300.00
John Boyd	2890.00
Estate of B. B. Mills	900.00
Baptiste Pourier	80.00
J. G. Collins	18.00
E. Tillotson (84.00)	650.00
M. Campbell	250.00
John Phillips	140.00
F. M. Phillips (P 540)	625.00

W. R. Jones	14.00
Fred Schwartz	20.00
E. J. Smith	200.00

\$16201.25

The above is a liberal estimate of my indebtedness, which I think very doubtful if I ever get through paying it—as I only own about \$9000 worth of property. But will keep trying. Will make a big effort this year to reduce considerably.

JOHN HUNTON"

Many of the names John Hunton lists among his creditors on that long past New Year's Day are well known in Wyoming history. Nine years earlier John (Portugee) Phillips made the ride for help from Ft. Phil Kearney, when it was under seige by Indians, to Fort Laramie in late December, 1866, a distance of 236 miles through blizzards and subzero weather resulting in troops being dispatched to rescue the small beleagured garrison. This was perhaps the greatest if not the most famous ride in history. James Hunton was John Hunton's brother, later killed by Indians; Baptiste Pourier (Big Bat) was a halfbreed scout known throughout the frontier, and M. (Malcomb) Campbell became one of the West's most famous frontier sheriffs.

It should also be noted that Hunton's New Year resolution to make "a big effort" to re-

duce his indebtedness was apparently well kept. At least he drew a penciled line through all the debts listed except six. Those not crossed out were E. Nagle \$1520.00, Henry Housman, \$130, S. F. Nuckolls \$834, Sam Groves \$1600, Estate of B. B. Mills \$900 (he was still having legal problems about the B. B. Mills estate 45 years later, in 1910), and W. R. Jones \$14.00. But a glance at the list shows that Nagle apparently got a \$500 payment on account.

*"Sat, Jan 2 — (Ft. Fetterman).
Played freezeout, won \$20. Spent \$2.50
for whisky and cigars. Snowed last night.
Have \$500 for F. M. Phillips. Thermom-
eter 36 below.*

*"Sun, Jan 3 — (Ft. Fetterman).
Snowed all night. Very high wind and
very cold. Killed fighting stag weight 780
lbs. Thermometer 14 below.*

*"Mon, Jan 4 — (Ft. Fetterman).
Butchered three steers. La legislature in-
terfered with by military under Col. De-
Trobriand. 13th Infy. Sheridan assum-
ed command at 4 PM. Thermometer 25
below at 7 AM.*

*"Wed, Jan 6 — (Ft. Fetterman).
Snowed all night. Snow quite deep. Clear
and ca'm. Thermometer 51 below at 7
AM."*

The only entries from the 7th through

the 10th are temperatures—which ranged from 19 to 30 below.

*“Mon, Jan 11 — (Ft. Fetterman).
Butchered five beeves today. Got eight
dollars. Thermometer 2 below.”*

From the 12th through the 16th nothing seems to have happened except more winter, with temperatures from 9 to 44 below zero.

*“Sun, Jan 17 — (Ft. Fetterman).
Snowed a little all night. Light snow all
day. Butchered Old Ranger and two oth-
er steers. Thermometer 22 below.”*

*“Mon, Jan 18 — (Milk Ranch).
Snow a little all day. Making ice at Milk
Ranch. Thermometer 26.”*

*“Tues, Jan 19 — (Milk Ranch).
Turned warm very suddenly. Snow melt-
ed very rapidly from 11 AM till night.
Williams and Powell went to LaBonte
with work cattle. Made ice today and got
house half full. Ice overflowed about
night. Thermometer 14 below during
night.”*

*“Wed, Jan 20 — (Milk Ranch).
Warm all night. Snow nearly all gone at
8 o'clock this AM. Camp started home
with Lts. Brown and True. Cloudy and
stormy with heavy rain this AM. Ther-
mometer 34 plus since yesterday.”*

*“Thurs, Jan 21 — (Milk Ranch).
From 1st inst. to this date beef all hard*

froze. All had to be sawed as it could not be cut with knife."

*"Fryday, Jan 22 — (Milk Ranch).
"Sam" horse shod. Won robe at freeze-out."*

From Saturday until Wednesday Hunton, despite a bad cold, and a crew of five men busied themselves filling the Tillotson ice house, getting their ice from the Platte River.

*"Wed, Jan 27 — (Ft. Fetterman).
John Hope helped haul ice with yoke cattle. Filed bid on Medicine Bow mail. W. E. Hathaway and Sam D. Grove security. Bid 1680\$ pr annum."*

*"Thurs, Jan 28 — (Ft. Fetterman).
Finished ice at Fort. Received of Capt. Luhn \$564 on beef for this month. Staid at Fort all night and won 31\$ at Poker of Hathaway, Harwood and Joe."*

*"Fryday, Jan 29 — (Milk Ranch).
Went to Milk Ranch and prepared to start to Chugg."*

"Sat, Jan 30 — (Enroute to Bordeaux). Started to Chug. Justy and Harwood with me. Drove milk team. Took Sam's sorrel pony. Camped all night on LaBonte. Powell and Williams moved to Wagon Hound."

"Sun, Jan 31 — (Enroute). Noon-ed on Horse Shoe. Staid all night at Ranch on Cotton Wood."

"Mon, Feb 1 — Nooned at Phillips. Paid Phillips \$500. Paid Mason \$20. Arrived at home 4 PM. John Boyd and "Charly" gone after hay bought of Phillips on Dans place. Nice day."

BORDEAUX was Hunton's home at that time, and this is perhaps an appropriate place to insert the following summary of a history of Bordeaux as written by Hunton:

In the spring of 1867 the commanding officer at Fort Laramie was ordered to construct a road and telegraph line between Fort Laramie and the newly established Ft. D. A. Russell, near Cheyenne, and dispatched a force of citizen employees with teams, wagons and equipment to do the work. A military escort of fifty or sixty soldiers accompanied the working party to protect it against hostile Indians, and a government guide, Antoine Ladeau, went along to help select the route.

James Bordeaux, a Frenchman who owned a road house and trading post about nine miles east of Fort Laramie on the Platte river, was tipped off by the guide Ladeau on where the new road would intersect on Chugwater Creek with another new road from Ft. Russell to Fetterman. Bordeaux promptly constructed three connected log rooms at that vantage point, in which he opened a store and road ranch, placing a man named Hugh Whiteside in charge of his new venture.

Whiteside was killed behind his counter

by an "outlaw" named Franklin during the winter of 1868. Two men known as "Cy" Williams and Swolley next operated the Bordeaux station for a short time and had a half-breed Sioux Indian boy, Baptiste Ladeau, working for them.

On a March morning in 1868 young Baptiste Ladeau quit his job and started to Fort Laramie on his pony, with his dog following him. Death also followed him. The boy was overtaken by Williams, Swolley and another man, according to Hunton, in the neighborhood of Chug Springs, some four miles north of Bordeaux, where they chased him up the side of a rocky bluff and killed him, together with his horse and dog. The remains were discovered about six weeks later by a detachment of soldiers.

The following May a band of halfbreed Indians caught and killed Williams at the E. Coffee & Cuny ranch five miles southeast of Fort Laramie. And the man Swolley also disappeared about the same time.

In the fall of 1868 an old bull-whacker Ed Foucks, got possession of Bordeaux, ran it well and enjoyed an extensive patronage. Foucks sold to a man named John Barrett in the summer of 1870 and Barrett sold Bordeaux to Hunton October 28, 1870, who made it his home and headquarters.

Bordeaux continued to be an important stage station, roadside hostelry and mail distri-

bution center for a wide area until the coming of the railroad in 1887 as this journal will subsequently show in more detail.

SIX MILE RANCH—FAVORITE SPOT FOR KILLINGS

"The sequel to the killing of Baptiste Ladeau at Chug Springs was about as follows:

"In the spring and early summer of 1868 the government, having induced the Indians to consent to be moved to White Clay River, near Fort Randall on the Missouri River, had them concentrate into one large camp east of Fort Laramie about 8 miles, preparatory to starting about the latter part of May or the first of June. This mobilization included all white men with Indian families who cared to make the move. Cy Williams, having an Indian wife, abandoned Bordeaux late in March or early in April and moved to the Indian camp east of Fort Laramie so as to be ready to start with the Indians. After his wife had been interviewed by the relations of the murdered Ladeau boy, Williams was openly accused of the killing, which he denied, and was secretly and closely watched to see that he did not attempt to leave camp. This condition of affairs lasted about a week, when some half-breeds precipitated a gun fight. Williams was killed, but not before he had killed

one halfbreed, Charley Richards, and wounded two other halfbreeds, Joe Bissetto and one whose name I have forgotten. Oliver P. Goodwin, an innocent spectator, was wounded but not seriously.

"A great many tragedies besides those I have mentioned occurred in what is now Platte county during the eleven years, 1867-1877, inclusive, in which the Indians were constantly on the war path. But the Indians were not the only killers.

"The 'Six Mile' Ranch, located on 'Baptist Fork', now known as Six Mile, about a quarter of a mile south of (Dan) Griffiths house on the Fort Laramie and Wheatland road was a favorite place for killing. The first man killed there was John Hunter, the original owner, who was shot by 'Bud' Thompson in October, 1868. The next two were John Lowry and James McClosky, shot by John Boyer in October, 1870. The next was Perry Arber, a wood chopper who was assassinated by a man whose name I have forgotten sometime in 1872 or '73. Then followed two men at different times during the Black Hills excitement prior to 1877. The last one was Adolph Cuny, who was assassinated by Clark Pelton in July, 1877. The Six Mile Ranch was in what is now Goshen county, about one mile east of the county line." — John Hunton in the *Fort Laramie Scout*, July 21, 1927.

lips who staid all night. Al Leighton stopped all night going east. John Boyd & Charly started for Laramie for hay. John Phillips went to Laramie.

"Tues, Feb 9 — (Bordeaux). Sent Blacksmith to Whalens by Missouri Jim. Mail went to Laramie. Saunders & Ab-

"Tues, Feb 2 — (Bordeaux). Snowed last night. Very windy and quite cold. Missouri Jim hunting horses all day and frosted his ears.

"Wed, Feb 3 — (Bordeaux). John & Charley returned with hay. Kelly passed homeward. Mail passed to Laramie. Andy Tabeaux same way.

"Thurs, Feb 4 — (Bordeaux). Sent Harwood to Whalens to get Blacksmith. Got back with blacksmith, wife and child. H. & J. B. slightly inebriated. Mail passed to Cheyenne. Wrote to Bullock enclosing \$135 in checks on J. A. Shutz. Morris, Nagle, Hass bid on mail sent. Fixed pump. Blacksmith named Harry Reed. Fine day.

"Fryday, Feb 5 — (Bordeaux). Shoeing mules, chopping wood, cleaning stable, etc. Phillips and Jim Harris nooned here on way to Cheyenne. Sent for Dick Mills' watch by Phillips.

"Sat, Feb 6 — (Bordeaux). Mr. Bullock arrived at Ranch with John Phil-

ney on coach. Govt. train passed going to Red Cloud. John Phillips went home.

"Thurs, Feb 11 — Went to Fort Laramie with Mr. Bullock and Jim Harwood. Stopped at Sutlers Store all night. Charly and Jim went for hay.

"Fryday, Feb 12 — Remained in the Fort. Dined with Maj. Laubenfeltz. Charly & Jim took poles from bottom near Dan's place, and Jim remained there in charge of Durhams.

"Sat, Feb 13 — Remained in Post all day. Breakfasted with Lt. Price.

"Sun, Feb 14 — Left Fort and went to Mr. Bullock's ranch on Laramie where he and I staid all night with L.P. Justy who has charge of Bullock's Durham cattle.

"Fryday, Feb 19 — (Bordeaux). Jim Hunton, Boyd and Harwood went to Goshen's Hole to roundup cattle. Found "black Pat". Harry staid all night. George Powell come from Fetterman.

"Sat, Feb 20 — (Bordeaux). Sent lame mule and white pony & old wagon to the Bullock Ranch. 20 lb. bacon, 4 lb. coffee, 25 lb salt, 5 lb. Y.P., order on Collins for 10 lb. sugar and gal. molasses for "Missouri" Jim. Gen. Mason went to Fetterman from Cheyenne.

"Mon, Feb 22 — (Bordeaux). Jim Hunton looked for ponies. Staid out all

night. Looked for cattle. Dined and fed at Owens. Mr. Bullock went to Butcher Phillips with Portugee Phillips.

"Tues, Feb 23 — (Bordeaux). Mail passed West. Jerome Forsythe arrived at ranch. Portugee Phillips went home.

"Thursday, Feb 25 — (Bordeaux). Held cattle and did not start to Fetterman on account of high wind. Killed beef. Campbell went to Cheyenne on Phillips and Whalen suit. Recd letter from Cross & Burnham (?) about Lt. Steele note and wrote them to get it paid or return it. The windiest day I ever saw.

"Fryday, Feb 26 — Started to Fetterman with 19 young steers for beef & wagon to take back hides. Harwood & Forsythe helping to drive cattle. Four bull calves for Phillips. Stopped at Phillips all night. P. gone to Peak. Bullock going to Laramie today.

"Sat, Feb 27 — Harwood & Forsythe went with me up North Laramie to look for painted horn cattle. Found none today. Camped for the night near "The Springs" in old house. Saw grasshoppers, flies, mosquitoes and other insects. Green grass.

"Sun, Feb 28 — Found two head steers. Dined at Brook's. Jim and John found five head. Camped at Phillips for night. Got 3 sacks corn of Andy, 5 days

hay for 9 mules & horses. Phillips went to Cheyenne on Hermans (?) case. L. P. Justy cash \$5.00. Some snow today."

In his accounts for the month of February, 1875, Hunton shows the following receipt, "G. L. Luhn (Charcoal) \$500.00." His principal expenditures were W. G. Bullock \$135.00, Stephen and Wilcox \$269.65 and E. Tillotson \$230.35. Three items for "Whisky & Cigars" add up to \$6.65. His final notation of money paid out is a rather pathetic little entry which may or may not be of slight comfort to modern ladies who feel they are short of spending money — it read, "Lallee \$1.00"

"Mon, Mar 1 — Left Phillips with 27 head beeves. Camped all night at Brooks. Hay for 10 animals. Little snow.

"Tues, Mar 2 — Started at sun up. Nooned on Cotton Wood. Arrived on Horse Shoe at dark. Cattle tired. Did not herd at night. Saw some deer.

"Wed, Mar 3 — Camped on Wagon Hound. Cattle and everything all right. Saw very large herd of deer. Williams & Smith come to camp. Saw grasshoppers.

"Thurs, Mar 4 — Arrived at Milk Ranch. Everything all right.

"Sat, Mar 6 — Went to Fort (Fetterman) with wagon. Returned lot of tools to Q. M. Borrowed 12 sks corn, 5 sks flour, 1 anvil. Recd pay for Feb. beef. Put horse in Cav. corral.

"Sun, Mar 7 — (Fetterman). Stopped in Post last night. Slept with Nick. In Post all day. Will stay all night. Snowing and blowing.

"Mon, Mar 8 — Went to Milk Ranch. Borrowed 25\$ of Nicol. Had bay pony shod. Six beeves missing out of herd.

"Tues, Mar 9 — Loaded hides. Black Pat shod. Got gun of Ezekiel. At Post (Fetterman) all day.

"Wed, Mar 10 — (Fetterman).

Loaded "traps" on wagon. Went to Post. Borrowed 500\$ of Van Vliet. Paymaster arrived. Give Sam 10\$ to pay for meat saw at Medicine Bow.

"Thursday, Mar 11 — Started home with team, loaded with hides. Camped on LaBonte. Nath Williams took oxen to Milk Ranch from Wagon Hound.

"Friday, Mar 12 — Got along slowly. Too heavily loaded. Camped on Horse Shoe near Cols. Mason and Staunton. Paid Govt. teamster "Brooks" 5\$ for pulling wagon up hill.

"Sat, Mar 13 — Left wagon in Company with Govt team and rode with Col. Mason to Ranch. (Bordeaux). Nooned at Phillips and got to Ranch before sunset. Mr. Bullock at Fort Laramie.

"Sun, Mar 14 — Chug Ranch (Bordeaux). Col. Mason and Mrs. Chambers staid all night and left for East today. Nicol dined here on way East.

"Tues, Mar 16 — (Bordeaux). Wagon started to Cheyenne with 111 hides, 102 from Fetterman, 9 from Ranch. Mail went West. Recd things bought by Campbell by J. McCarthy. Freight \$7.50.

"Sat, Mar 20 — Jim & I went back of Squaw Mountain to hunt for pine poles. Nooned at camp on Sybille. Camp-

ed all night on little creek in the mountains. Killed blacktail doe at camp.

"Sun, Mar 21 — Found some poles along the sides of the ball mountain back of Squaw Mt., but on very rough ground and hard to get. Returned to ranch (Bordeaux) where we found H. Hass and Fred Swartz who staid all night.

"Mon, Mar 22—Went with Hass and Swartz to Phillips. Nooned. To Bullock Ranch and 3 Mile Ranch and to Fort Laramie where I saw Mr. Bullock and staid all night at Sutlers Store. Capt. Van Vliet passed going to Omaha.

"Tues, Mar 23 — (Fort Laramie) Expedition under Capt Mix started to bring miners out of Black Hills. Mr. Bullock went with expedition. Considerable excitement about Blk. Hills. Went to 3 Mile Ranch and staid all night."

The above long past and forgotten minor military movement was a prelude to major war with the Sioux which was to follow discovery of gold in the Black Hills and the rush of thousands of miners into that area, which the Indians considered a violation of their territory and of their peace treaties with the white man.

On one of our rides together in Mr. Hunton's old buck-board he expressed himself to the writer as considering the white man primarily responsible for the Indian wars. He said the tribesmen were originally a dignified,

trusting people who kept their word and agreements and were inclined, for the most part, to be friendly until after they had been lied to, cheated and treated with contempt by their white brothers, or at least by some of them. But he also pointed out that once their confidence had been destroyed the Indians not only learned and embraced the civilized arts of treachery and deceit — they added to them certain distinctive techniques of savage cruelty and cunning which made warfare on the plains a fearsome thing. We do not pretend that these were Hunton's words but such was his strong belief as we recall that conversation of some 35 years ago.

"Wed. Mar 24 — Returned to Ranch (Bordeaux) with Hass & Swartz. Give Hass my watch to sell to pay him. Bill left his watch with me. Camp come to Ranch.

"Thurs. Mar 25 — (Bordeaux). F. Yates and Peters passed North. dined here. Pay Master Staunton passed South. Mail Coach ditto. Sent 25\$ for saddle by Pye. Cutting poles. Camp left.

"Fryday. Mar 26 — (Bordeaux). Lt. Whitman with Co. Cav., Frank North arrived and will stay all night. Furnished them hay (760 lbs.). Cal. Joe and party of miners passed.

"Sat. Mar 27 — Cav. Co. started 7 o'clock. So'd John Hall Black Pat for 50\$.

"Sun, Mar 28 — Brand Cheyenne ponies IX. Some travel on road the last week and much excitement about Black Hill mines.

"Tues, Mar 30 — (Bordeaux). Mail passed North. Daily Republican (Omaha) came. Saddle come. Did not like it.

"Wed, Mar 31 — (Bordeaux). Hauling posts. Hitched up wild Mare Mule. Col. Mason's escort arrived. Kelly went to Laramie."

Hunton's accounts for March show receipts of \$481.00 on his beef contract with the military and \$614.17 for hides — presumably the load of 111 hides he hauled from Fetterman to Cheyenne March 16. On the expense side, he paid \$20.25 for that gun he got from Ezekiel March 9. He also notes a purchase of 55c worth of Yeast Powders, which may identify the 5 lb. item of "Y.P." which he sent to Missouri Jim February 20. On the 24th he sent Nagle \$588.67 "on note".

"Thurs, Apr 1 — (Bordeaux). Mail passed South. Letter from Powell wanting to quit butchering. Kipp went to Cheyenne. Sent 35\$ to Hellman for pants for Jim, Tom & myself. 10\$ for Sam Groves. Capt. Ferris passed for Fetterman. Hauling posts. Got check for 100\$ from Capt. Luhn.

"Fryday, Apr 2 — Went to Fort Laramie to hire butcher, staid all night at 3 Mile Ranch. Passed Bullock place, Justy agrees to remain there. Snow and rain storm PM.

"Sat. Apr 3 — Went to Fort early. Saw Sam Fisher and he agreed to go to Fetterman to butcher at 50\$ per month. Got some provisions of Price & Seton. Returned as far as Bullock Ranch and staid all night. Lallee with me.

"Sun, Apr 4 — Returned to Ranch (Bordeaux). Nooned at Phillips. Got home about sundown. Col. Mason and Lt. True staid at Ranch last night. Very hard rain last night and very cold today.

"Mon, Apr 5 — (Bordeaux). Govt. train passed to Laramie loaded with bridge and hay. Brooks went to Cheyenne. Hunting cattle but found but few (Jim, John & Charly). Dutch William come to ranch.

The above item may refer to material for the iron bridge across the Platte about two

miles northeast of the Old Fort. At least it was built in 1875 and hauled to the site by wagon train. And despite its burden of 85 years and constant use the ancient structure still sturdily spans the river, connecting the town of Fort Laramie with the historic post.

Strangely enough Mr. Hunton does not seem to comment on the actual building of this bridge in his diary, but he did tell the writer that during its construction a feud developed between the engineer in charge of the work and the commanding officer at Fort Laramie, for some forgotten reason. On completion of the structure this ill feeling, according to Hunton, inspired the C. O. to have his soldiers pile large freight wagons full of rock, haul them onto the bridge, remove the tongues so they could be butted wheel to wheel across its entire length, and let them stand there for several days. When one of the piers settled slightly under the tremendous weight Mr. Hunton recalled that the hapless engineer had to rebuild it before the commanding officer would accept the job.

"Tues, Apr 6 — (Bordeaux). Mail went North. Got pants etc from Hellman. Recd letter from Mrs. Hall. Newspaper excitement about Blk Hills continues. Greasing saddles, harness, etc. Too stormy to do any outdoor work. Snowed and blowed all night and all day. Freezing hard all night and day.

"Wed, Apr 7 — (Bordeaux). Writing letters. Wrote to Sister. Hands greasing harness, cleaning stables, etc. Too stormy to work out. Ice about 3 inches thick and still freezing. Snowed all night and still snowing 6 P.M. Very cold.

"Thurs. Apr 8 — Wrote more letters. Hands chopping poles. John Boyd cut his foot. Sam Fisher come to ranch. Coach went to Cheyenne. Clear, little wind thawing snow.

"Fryday. Apr 9 — (Bordeaux). Jim and Fisher hunting cattle. Repaired light wagon. Took quarter beef to Owens. Cattle in corral to start to Fetterman. Got clock home, does not run well. Left money, 5\$, with Tom Hutton to pay for it and to buy spades.

"Sat. Apr 10 — Started to Fetterman with 17 head young beef steers, one of them the Campbell "Buck Skin" steer. Packed horse. Jim & Fisher with me. Put cattie in Phillips field. P. started to Cheyenne today. Stormy and snowing all day.

"Sun. Apr 11 — Painted cattle's horns. Found one of Phillips painted horns that run off from Fetterman. Went to Brooks PM. Campbell hunting his cattle. Have five of them. Fed hay and grain at Brooks to two hd horses and two of Campbells. Fisher taken sick with quinzy. Storming snow nearly all day.

"Mon, Apr 12 — Traveled. Noon-
ed on Cotton Wood. Met Johnson. Staid
all night at Ranch on Horse Shoe. Pleas-
ant day.

"Tues, Apr 13 — Nooned on La-
bonte. Got to Milk Ranch 10 o'clock at
night. Found lot of men there. Great
deal of snow between Horse Shoe and
Fetterman. Bad roads.

"Wed, Apr 14 — Drove cattle to
Ranch and went to Post (Fetterman)
with Fisher. Put horse in Q.M. corral.
Very pleasant day.

"Thurs, Apr 15 — (Fetterman).
Staid in Post last night. Lost \$18.10 at
cards. Settled with Jim Powell and Fish-
er comcd. butchering. Recd. bal. \$425.55
from Capt on March beef. Had my horse
shod by Jim Harris. Mail arrived. Let-
ter from Haas with bills.

"Sat, Apr 17 — (Fetterman). Raf-
fled for carpet & chairs. (Cains). Won
chairs. Traded with Speed (Stagner) for
carpet. Recd. wood. Heavy docking of all
wood. Went to Milk Ranch.

"Sun, Apr 18 — (Milk Ranch on
LaPrele). Went to Post (Fetterman).
Ward broke his leg. Got him in Hospi-
tal. Bad case. Nothing else occurring went
to Ranch. Very fine day.

"Mon, Apr 19 — Started to Chug
(Bordeaux). Took Ward's pony. Noon-

ed on Wagon Hound with Hathaway. Staid all night on Horse Shoe at Ranch. Traveled with Mail Carrier.

"Tues. Apr 20 — Continued journey. Laramie River just fordable. Noon-ed at Phillips. Heard of death of Mrs. Owens. Phillips booming river and moving Titus fence. Got home at dark.

"Wed., Apr 21 — (Bordeaux). "Numpa" (or Nampa) come to Ranch and went back. Says Indians divided on sale of Black Hills and will fight if satisfactory arrangements are not arrived at. Fencing. Whitcomb's man Stover after Cottonwood trees. Nice day.

"Thurs. Apr 22 — (Bordeaux). Jim Hunton started to Cheyenne with wagon for nails, corn, etc. Capt. Spaulding and Allen went to Laramie. Parties on Chug to take up claims. Chas. Thompson took claim. Comcd plowing. Nice day.

"Fryday. Apr 23 — (Bordeaux). Chas. Thompson went to Cheyenne to file claim. Rode my horse. Govt. train passed round fence. Whitcomb's Stover staid three nights.

Perhaps a word of explanation is in order concerning the word "Fryday". The book in which this 1875 diary is written was actually printed to cover the year 1874 but for some reason Mr. Hunton did not get around to us-

ing it until 1875. This made it necessary for him to cross out the name of each day of the week and write in the correct day for 1875, which he carefully did. For example, January 1, 1874 was on a Thursday, but came on Friday in 1875. In making these changes Mr. Hunton followed the conventional spelling until he came to Friday, and throughout the book he consistently and stubbornly preferred the spelling "Fryday". We have done likewise.

"Tues, Apr 27 — Staid all night at Bullock Ranch. Cattle improving. Returned to Chug. Nooned at Phillips. Lallee with me. Whitcomb's Stover and family at Ranch.

On rare occasions, while jogging along some dusty road behind Mr. Hunton's sturdy driving team, Dutch and Brownie, the old gentleman's customary reserve would break down and he would start to talk, almost as if to himself, of the old days and, sometimes, of his travels with Lallee across the plains and through the mountains he loved so well. At such times I soon learned that my cue was to keep as quiet as possible. Often the interruption of a single word or question would remove that far-away look and drop the curtain between past and present.

Of Lallee he always spoke with the utmost respect, as indeed he invariably did of all women. He would speak of her closeness to nature, of how sounds in the wilderness, the

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cry of a bird, the howl of a coyote had for her a special meaning and frequently spoke to her of things that were hidden from him. Of how she could prepare a palatable meal, where a white man alone would have starved, from what nature had placed at hand on the prairie or in the woods, even to digging certain roots, and pounding them into a sort of flour to make a kind of bread.

He told of one such trip, without specifying when or where, but it must have been before he started this journal, during which he almost lost his scalp and well might have had it not been for Lallee's sixth sense, or whatever it was she had that he did not have.

When they had been on this journey for some days she told him several young warriors were on their trail and intended to kill him. He found this hard to believe because there had been no sign of Indian hostility or indication of "war" when they had left Fort Laramie. Nevertheless, he kept a sharp eye thereafter and they headed for home.

That night he recalled they had camped on a hillside next to a ravine and when he got up the next morning he saw a bear on the far side of the ravine, far beyond accurate gun range of that day. But because he "felt good" he raised his gun and fired just for the sport of it and was quite astonished to see the bear fall over dead. They continued their way without further incident only to learn on arriving home

that there HAD been a short Indian out-break and some savage fighting during their absence.

When peace was reestablished some of the Indians involved gathered at or near Fort Laramie for a feast during the course of which certain braves arose and told of their exploits during the "war", as seems to have been the custom. One young warrior got to his feet, pointed at Hunton who was present, and told how he and several companions had trailed the white man and his squaw, intending to scalp him. But early one morning as they were approaching his camp, planning their attack, they saw him get up with the sun, shoot far across the valley and kill a bear. That changed their minds. They decided not to fight the man with such a mighty gun.

"Wed, Apr 28 — (Bordeaux). Done but little today. Jim Lane got leg broke.

"Fryday, Apr 30 — (Bordeaux). Mr. Bullock returned to Ranch and went with me to his Ranch where we staid all night. Tillotson went East.

"Sat, May 1 — Went to Fort Laramie. Spent the day there.

"Sun, May 2 — (Bordeaux). Went to Ranch. Baptiste with Mr. Bullock remained at Laramie. Govt. train built bridge. Guiterman (?) stoped for the night.

"Mon, May 3 — (Bordeaux). Planted onions and other seeds in old garden. Men working on fence. Charley Coffee nooned here.

"Wed, May 5 — Jim and I went to Coffees on Box Elder looking for cattle. Found some young cattle. No steers or cows.

"Thurs, May 6 — (Bordeaux). Staid all night at Coffee's. Looked through "Goshen's Hole" for cattle, found none that I wanted, returned home. Capt. Henry passed going East on leave.

"Fryday, May 7 — (Bordeaux). Staid at ranch all day. Louis Loab passed, said Indians were on way to Washington. Nice day.

"Sat, May 8 — (Bordeaux). Making fence. Indians passed going to Washington. Killed beef."

The above laconic entries were the prelude to considerable history. We are indebted to Hon. Joseph C. O'Mahoney, chairman of the Senate committee on Indian Affairs and to the Library of Congress for much of the fol-

lowing information concerning that delegation of Indian chieftains who passed through Hunton's Road Ranch at Bordeaux that May day of 80 years ago on their way to see the great White Father in Washington.

They were headed by Chief Red Cloud.



This ancient photograph, identified as Red Cloud in Mr. Hunton's writing was carefully preserved among his papers together with the photographs of other Indians, all identical in size and mounting, which Mr. Hunton likewise identifies as Black Crow, Iron Shell, White Eyes, No Flesh and Mr. and Mrs. Thigh.

(Some of them are not nearly as handsome and benevolent looking as Chief Red Cloud). These photographs presumably are mementos they brought home with them (and apparently just about the only thing they did bring home with them) from that illfated trip, as printing on the back proclaims they were all taken by "Alex Gardner, 921 Penna. Ave., Washington, D. C."

Others in Red Cloud's delegation, according to Washington records, were: American Horse, Little Wound, Shoulder, Corquering Bear, Face Sitting Bull, Trail Lance, East Thunder, Black Bear, Iron Horse, Pawnee Killer and Mr. and Mrs. Bad Wound. In all there were three delegations from the Sioux Nations which converged on Washington that spring, the other two being led by Lone Horn, chief of the Minneconjous, and Chief Spotted Tail.

Three Indian Agents, Maj. H. W. Bingham, J. J. Saville and E. A. Howard accompanied the delegations and William Garnett and Louis Bordeaux went along as interpreters. They arrived in Washington on the 16th and 17th of May and were quartered at the Tremont House.

Chief Red Cloud and the delegations first met President Grant at the White House on May 19, but after greeting them the President said he was too busy to discuss their problems that day and shunted them along to talk with the Commissioner of Indian Affairs and the Secretary of the Interior — a real case of "passing the Buck" if there ever was one.

This brushhoff seemed to annoy the big chiefs. Lone Horn is reported to have "informed the President that he and his forefathers had owned all of this country at one time and that he was claiming entire ownership, as of that day, for the Indians", and they were "fully prepared to fight for their rights." Next Spotted Tail and Red Cloud chimed in and said, "with angry gestures that, unless he appointed a day very soon to meet with them, he, the President would be sorry". But General Grant, it seems, just wasn't in any mood for pow-wow-ing and "With this the entire delegation marched out".

At a subsequent meeting with the Indian Commissioner, "Red Cloud spoke first, maintaining that the white man had told him many lies and he had come to Washington to find the truth from 'The Great White Father' ". He received a promise they could see the President some other day.

On May 21st, "the delegation and their interpreters appeared at the Commission's office to demand a change of quarters from the Tremont House to the Washington House, maintaining that their rooms were too small." The Commissioner's long reply to this complaint added up to "no soap" and the Indians went away mad again. At one conference Lone Horn complained "they did not have enough food on their reservation nor weapons with which to obtain food". The Commissioner's come-back was that Lone Horn's band was

short of food because they "entertained and supported other Indians" — and the request for guns was turned down because "Bad Indians" might get them. It is not surprising that the boys began to feel they were getting no place fast. On one of these occasions the Commissioner asked Spotted Tail how he felt about the situation and the chief replied, "I don't brag about the Black Hills country when I am talking to white men, but I love it and don't want to leave."

Finally, on May 26 they got their interview with President Grant and the old general apparently lost no time in laying down the law of might makes right. He is quoted in part as saying:

"They must see that the white people outnumber the Indians two hundred to one in the territories of the United States. This number is increasing rapidly and before many years it will be impossible to fix the limits where the Indians can prevent the white people from going. It will soon become necessary for white people to go to countries, whether occupied by Indians or not, the same as they go from one state to another."

And so Red Cloud and his red Brothers got the truth from their "Great White Father". The President then proceeded to "... point out to them the advantages both to themselves and children if they will enter into an agreement I

shall propose to them. There is a territory south of where they now live, where game and grass is better, and where whites can be sent among them to teach them in the arts of civilization. This year there has been great difficulty in keeping the white people from the Black Hills in search of gold . . . Each recurring year this same difficulty will be encountered unless the right to go to that country is granted by the Indians. In the end this purpose to get into that country may lead to hostilities between the whites and the Indians without any special faults on either side." President Grant then ended the interview by saying, "I want the Indians to think of what I have said to them. I don't want them to talk today, but to speak freely with the Secretary of the Interior and the Commissioner of Indian affairs."

They met with Secretary of the Interior Delano and Commissioner Smith on May 27 and were given some more blunt advice. After telling them how good it was for the Indians to be at peace with the whites and pointing out that the government was spending \$1,200,000 annually on supplies for the Sioux, the secretary threatened discontinuance of further aid unless they accepted the government's offer, being quoted as saying, "Now if you don't do what is right, Congress will refuse to give you any more aid." (After 80 years that still seems to have a familiar echo in some of today's official statements concerning our foreign economic policy).

And what was the government's offer for the Black Hills and other concessions? "Commissioner Smith then stated that Congress would give them \$25,000 for their land and send them into Indian Territory to settle." No friend, we didn't leave off any ciphers. \$25,000, it says here, was the government's offer.

Spotted Tail's reply to Secretary Delano's proposition was something of an oration, its logic worthy, in our opinion, of preservation and was as follows:

THE INDIANS' POSITION

"My father, I have considered all the Great Father told me, and have come here to give you an answer . . . When I was here before the President gave me my country, and I put my stake down in a good place, and there I want to stay . . . I respect the Treaty (doubtless referring to the treaty of 1868) but the white men who come in our country do not. You speak of another country, but it is not my country: it does not concern me, and I want nothing to do with it. I was not born there . . . if it is such a good country you ought to send the white men now in our country there and let us alone . . ."

Wrangling continued on a number of minor points, including interpretation of the terms of the treaty of 1868, but the Indians re-

fused to sign any new treaty or agreement until they had returned home to consult with their people and left Washington empty handed on June 4.

Dim and distant echoes from the savage war which followed, climaxed by the Custer massacre, are recorded in Mr. Hunton's diary of 1876. But the Indian cause was hopeless. The strength of the Sioux was broken. President Grant "spoke with a straight tongue" — the odds were too great.

Source data for the above summary was secured from the *Washington Star*, May 8, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 26, 27 and June 1, 3, 4 and 5, 1875; and from the Annual Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs 1874-5-6-7.

Had a successful solution been found the great Indian wars of 1876 might not have been fought and there would have been no Custer Massacre. For a time our government did try, unsuccessfully, to stop the tide according to most historians — but the magic word "Gold" was too powerful a drug, then as now. In vain did Washington issue its proclamations. In vain did our troops try to block the trails. Perhaps no human power could have stemmed that ant-like, gold-crazed horde. So the Indians fought and thousands died.

"Sun, May 9 — (Bordeaux). Very late finding horses and did not hunt cat-

tle. At Ranch all day. Horse Shoe Johnson passed. Brooks and Snyder's herders stoped and will stay all night.

"Mon, May 10 — (Bordeaux). Roundup cattle and cut out some to take to Fetterman. Parties rounding up on Chugg below Beaver House. Very windy all day.

"Tues, May 11 — Started to Fetterman with 21 cows & beeves, 5 calves. John, Charly & Jim driving. I with wagon. Stage went N. Dined at Owens. Hired Tom to go with me. Charly went back from Eagles Nest.

"Wed, May 12 — Staid at 6 Mile Ranch last night. Corralled cattle. Stoped at (Fort) Laramie several hours for noon. Cow had calf. Let Dr. Hartsuff have Red No. 10 cow and bull calf by Duke. Jim went back. Camped for night at 9 Mile Bottom.

"Thurs, May 13 — Cattle all right. Went to Cotton Wood for breakfast. Camped for night on Little Cottonwood. Nice day.

"Fryday, May 14 — Cattle all right. Went to Twin Spring for breakfast. Sam & Forsythe ioined me here. Went in camp on Horse Shoe to wait for Johnson. I went to J.'s Ranch and staid all night. Clear and warm.

"Sat, May 15 — Met cattle at Cave

Spring breakfast. Traded Johnson & Walker 2 cows and calves for beef steers. Went to LaBonte and camped for night.

"Tues, May 18 — Breakfasted on Elk Horn. Saw smoke cross Platte. Noonned at Twin Springs. Camped for night at Lime Kiln. Nice warm day.

"Wed. May 19 — Started after breakfast. Noonned at Author's Ranch. P. M. found roundup party which disbanded. Brooks & Phillip men going home. Nice warm day."

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"John Arthur (Author), Mr. Workman and others settled on Bitter Cottonwood creek in 1874, but did not remain long after having their horses run off once or oftener by Indians." John Hunton, in the Fort Laramie Scout, June 9, 1927.

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"Thurs, May 20 — (Bordeaux). Got breakfast and started home. Noonned at Brooks. Brooks sold out to Geuiterman (?). Powell & McMillin helping Brooks & Phillip gather cattle sold to Bosler (?). Campbell and I got to Ranch. John Phillips & party arrived to stay all night. Nice warm day.

"Fryday, May 21 — (Bordeaux). Cam'be'l went to Laramie with Phillips. Collins going to Washington. Charly Clay here.

The "Collins" named above was probably J. S. Collins, post sutler or trader at Old Fort Laramie from 1872 to 1877. And the "Charly Clay" who was a guest at Hunton's wilderness hostelry on that May night of 1875 was undoubtedly Charles E. Clay, pictured below, who came to this area in the early 70's with his sister Nannie. They were second cousins of the statesman Henry Clay.



CHARLES E. CLAY

(Photo by courtesy of Mr. Clement Ayers)

The Clays were Virginia friends of W. G. Bullock, for whom Charly worked for a time

at the Old Fort. Later he and Mr. Hunton developed two of the biggest ox-team freight hauling outfits in the territory and Mr. Clay also operated a store in Rock Creek, in what is now Albany county, for many years.

The similarity in background and life's early course for young Hunton and Clay is noteworthy. Both were born in Virginia in the year 1839, were soldiers in the Confederate army and came West after the Civil War. Then each sent his sturdy, ox-powered freight wagons lurching over the same dangerous trails to supply our frontier military posts. And later both men were active in the political life of their adopted state. Mr. Clay was a member of the first Wyoming State Legislature and of the first Douglas town council. He was the second Converse County treasurer, elected in 1886, and also served as a local judge.

He died in action as he had lived. In 1905, while serving as marshal in Elma, Washington at the age of 67, he received fatal injuries while placing an obstreperous drunk under arrest.

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*"Sun, May 23 — (Bordeaux).
Started on roundup. Roundup near Phillips beef cattle. Campbell hurt his nose.*

Hunton frequently refers to and visits the Phillips Ranch which was operated by F. M. "Butcher" Phillips, one of the early cattlemen on the Laramie River a few miles below Uva.

Mr. Phillips vied with Hunton, but apparently in a most friendly and cooperative manner, in supplying the military with beef at Forts Laramie and Fetterman. We understand he was no relation to John (Portugee) Phillips.

"Mon, May 24 — At Phillips all night. Put steers across river. Moved Durhams to Chugg.

"Tues, May 25 — At Phillips all night. Went to (Fort) Laramie. Big expedition started."

Since Mr. Hunton does not say where the "big expedition" started to, or why, perhaps its destination and purpose was a "military secret" of the day.

"Wed, May 26 — At Camp's all night. Went to Brooks Ranch.

"Thurs, May 27 — At Brooks all night. Went to Cotton Wood where found roundup party.

"Fryday, May 28 — Rounded up on Cotton Wood. Cut out and corralled. Ice last night $\frac{1}{4}$ inch thick.

"Sat, May 29 — Cattle broke out corral. Rounding up again. Nice day.

"Sun, May 30 — Hunting steers that got away. Only found one. At Authors tonight. John Boyd, (illegible name), Joe Morris and Russell joined party.

"Mon, May 31 — Rounding cattle. Camp on N. Laramie above Brooks Ranch.

"Tues, June 1 — Rounded all North of Laramie River and comcd cutting out Johnson's steers.

"Wed, June 2 — Went to Phillips field with John Otten after Hathaways steers A. M. Helped cut out cattle P. M.

"Thurs, June 3 — Started for Fetterman helping to drive Johnson's beeves, 934 in all. Bought four beeves of him and cut out and corralled them and other cattle.

"Fryday, June 4 — Staid all night on Horse Shoe. Started at 6 A. M. with 15 beef steers, 2 cows, one calf. Nooncd on LaBonte. Camped for night on Bed-tick.

"Sat, June 5 — Got to Milk Ranch (on LaPrele) 7 A. M. Went to Post (Fetterman) in afternoon. Will stay all night.

"Sun, June 6 — (Fetterman). Recd \$562.30 for May beef. Went to Ranch.

"Mon, June 7 — Went to "Deer Creek" after wire to make fence. Heard of Indians stealing horses on "Rock Creek".

"Wed, June 9 — Started to Old Fort Casper for wire. Nooncd on Deer Creek.

"Thurs, June 10 — Staid last night near Muddy. Saw Cavalry camp today.

Nooned at Casper. Comcd getting wire on return.

"Fryday, June 11 — Staid last night near old Platte Bridge. Gathering wire until P. M. Started home with Cavalry. Nice day, very dry.

"Sat, June 12 — (Milk Ranch on LaPrele). Staid last night at Deer Creek. Cavalry trying to cross river failed. Got home 2½ P. M. Cavl. returned, accomplished nothing.

"Mon, June 14 — Went to Post (Fetterman) and returned. Jim Harris sick.

"Wed. June 16 — (Milk Ranch). Doing nothing. Went to Post, bought Harris horses and harness for \$200. Warm and very dry.

"Fryday, June 18 — Went to Post (Fetterman) for mail. Harris started off today. Raining all A. M. very nicely.

"Sat, June 19 — At Post (Fetterman) in P. M. Give J. Mincer (?) check for \$30 to go to Medicinebow for Coal, etc.

"Sun, June 20 — At Ranch (on LaPrele) all day reading. Party of miners come to Creek. Blivens with them.

"Fryday, June 25 — Went to Post (Fetterman). Indians stole herd of horses on Laramie plains. Soldiers after them.

"Sat, June 26 — Went to Post (Fetterman). Paid Frank Marrivale (?) \$14.50 butcher's board. Campbell, Hunter and others arvd on creek with beef cattle.

"Sun, June 27 — Went to Post (Fetterman). Saw horse racing. Parties drunk.

"Mon, June 28 — Went to Post. Got mower & rake. Griffins Ranch burned last night."

During the first two weeks of July Hunton, with the help of a blacksmith named Martin and others, worked steadily at his Milk Ranch on LaPrele overhauling his train of heavy freight wagons.

Here was a trade at which he was master. Nearly half a century later when he lived in the house adjoining ours at Old Fort Laramie there was still not much about a wagon or set of harness that John Hunton could not fix better and stronger than new. He maintained his work shop almost to the last in a south room of the old Sutler's Store building (once the officers' club), and the tools in his heavy, iron-bound chest were always sharp and ready for action.

Hunton could tell, instinctively it seemed, when a four-horse-everer had seen its best days or when a wheel on your farm wagon was about ready to cave in under a heavy load. And if something about the place did not satisfy his vigilant inspection he was apt to take prompt and stern measures whether you liked it or not.

We soon knuckled under to his amused disdain at our inclination to rush to town for repairs at every breakdown, and learned to our profit and satisfaction that when he took a native ash pole and made you a wagon tongue or set of doubletrees you had something more sturdy and lasting than could be purchased at a store.

Despite his weight of more than 80 years

he would work steadily throughout a subzero day in his drafty, unheated shop, swathed in his cowhide coat and heavy leather mittens, when he had a job to do — apparently impervious to weather that sent lesser men, such as we, searching for a good hot stove. And before calling it a day his tools were always back in their chest, cleaned and sharp, ready for the next breakdown that dared challenge his skill.

He was perhaps the most striking example we have ever known of an artisan who worked because he WANTED to. And, contrary to certain popular present day notions the "pro.it motive" seemingly had little to do with his urge. Perhaps that is why John Hunton left behind him monuments of accomplishment in many fields instead of dollars.

"Wed, July 14 — (Milk Ranch on LaPrele). Work on wagons. Rec'd letter from Q.M. Agt. relating to freight, also one from Col. Moore (?) about contract. Answered both.

"Thurs, July 15 — (Milk Ranch). Completed 4 of my wagons and one of Nath's (Williams). Started teams to Medicine Bow. 11 teams in all. Officers "Rec'me" (?) at Natural Bridge.

"Fryday, July 16 — Work on mower and rake. Both in very bad condition. Paymaster arvd. at Fetterman.

"Sat, July 17 — Went to Post (Fet-

terman). Staid all day. Borrowed \$500 from (Robt.) Walpole.

"Sun, July 18 — Started to Chugy. Staid on Horse Shoe all night with Paymasters escort. Met hay train. Rained hard all along the road.

"Mon, July 19 — (Bordeaux). Started at daylight, got dinner at Baptiste's. Got to ranch at sundown. There has been hard rains on Chugg. Tom hauling posts. Squaw gone to Whitcomb's. Nice day.

The "Whitcomb" Lallee was visiting undoubtedly was Hunton's neighbor Elias W. Whitcomb, one of Wyoming's best known early pioneers who also left posterity many interesting reminiscences of his own. Whitcomb settled on Horse Shoe about 1861. At one time he ran a trading store which was burned out by Slade's gang of outlaws. Later he was one of the famous "Johnson County Invaders". Whitcomb's Indian wife was a relative of Baptiste Garnier (Little Bat) who made his home with Hunton when not hunting or scouting for the military. So perhaps Lallee just got lonesome during Hunton's absence of more than a month at Fetterman and went over to Whitcomb's for a little family chitchat and redskin gossip.

"Tues, July 20 — (Bordeaux). Maj. Staunton, Gen. Crook and others

passed north. Hauling posts, repairing rake and mower. Mail passed north. Kent passed north."

Tom A. Kent was another neighbor Hunton's and a well known old timer. His outfit on the N. Laramie ran some 8,000 head cattle and he was a charter member of the Laramie County Stock Association, attending its first meeting in Cheyenne on November 2, 1873.

"Wed, July 21 — (Bordeaux). Sam Groves started to Cheyenne with pictures and letter for Mrs. Bullock. Work on rake. W. M. Ward passed with horses for Indians.

"Thurs, July 22 — (Bordeaux). Frank Yates & wife and Agt. Saville passed for Omaha. Surveyor Hammond staid with us tonight going to (Fort) Laramie after stolen horse. Bat at Ranch. Nice day.

"Fryday, July 23 — (Bordeaux). Kent dined going home. Hammond passed N. with horse. Few Blackhillers on road.

"Sat, July 24 — (Bordeaux). Sam returned from Cheyenne with things I sent for. Whitcomb come with cattle for Indians, will stay all night. Went to Dan's for bull Punch.

"Sun, July 25 — (Bordeaux). Help-

ing Whitcomb brand cattle. He will stay all night.

"Mon. July 26 — (Bordeaux). Whitcomb left with herd. Fixing to start to Fetterman.

"Tues. July 27 — Sam Grove, Geo. Heath and another man, myself started to Fetterman with 4 mule teams, Ben horse and bull Punch. Heavy rain on Chugg at lower Xing. Recd letter about road. Wrote Tom Street 10\$. Wrote Corlette Holblum (?).

"Wed. July 28 — I staid at Kent's last night. Wagon $\frac{1}{2}$ way from here to Cotton Wood. Saw Johnson on Cotton Wood rounding up cattle to get beef for Carpenter. Got to Horse Shoe 1 P. M.

"Thurs. July 29 — Went to Wagon Hound all right. Camped for night. No hay below the road.

"Fryday. July 30 — Staid all night on Wagon Hound. Started early this morning and got to Ranch (on LaPrele) about noon. Passed Dennizen's on road going to Bridgers ferry for hay. Bull traveled up all right. Train left yesterday for Med. Bow.

"Bridger's Ferry" was named after the famous scout Jim Bridger who is supposed to have purchased a major interest in it in 1857. The ferry was operated with cables and pul-

leys across the Platte river during high water. It was located some 50 miles up river from Fort Laramie, near the town of Orin.

In his accounts for July John Hunton shows small cash payments to the following individuals: John Minser, Jack Williams, Geo. Powell (a bull team freighter of the period), Tom Bowen, John Hope, Ed Smith, Jack O'Brien, Baptiste Pourie (Hunton's spelling), Chas. Thompson, T. A. Kent, P. H. Fisher, Sam Groves and \$2.50 to an unnamed "round up cook".

His largest cash outlay was \$200 to "Mrs. M. E. Bullock". Mrs. Bullock was the wife of Col. W. G. Bullock, Hunton's long time friend and business associate, but for some reason he used her maiden initials in recording this transaction. She was a descendant of George Washington and her maiden name was Mary Eliza Washington.

His largest receipt of the month was \$500 borrowed from Robt. Walpole on July 17.

"Sun, Aug 1 — (Milk Ranch on LaPrele). Sam (Groves) & party started to Wagon Hound to cut hay. Went to Post (Fetterman). No news. Dennizen's train come to Ranch without hay. Went to Post to see about freight. Tel-gh down.

"Mon, Aug 2 — (On LaPrele). Dennizen started with Co teams for freight. Went to Post (Fetterman) with John. Repairing Seminole wagon.

"Tues, Aug 3 — Went to hayfield with (Malcomb) Campbell. Looked around for hay but found little.

"Wed, Aug 4 — (Milk Ranch on LaPrele). Returned to ranch from hay field. Repairing wagon for Noel Biggsby, etc. etc. Fisher & other man camped near ranch.

"Thurs, Aug 5 — (On LaPrele). Indians stole Campbell's horses last night, followed trail beyond Box Elder. Cavalry scouting. Lt. Robinson made Q.M.

"Fryday, Aug 6 — Went to Post (Fetterman) early. Examined ice, nearly all gone. D. K. Lord arrived with freight.

"Sat, Aug 7 — (On LaPrele). Hay party returned A.M. Repairing wagons for Speed (Stagner). Repaired mower & rake. Lord started for freight. Gave him order on Trabing for mdse for 100\$.

"Sun, Aug 8 — Hay party started to

Box Elder, instructed to cut all hay that could be found. Campbell with them.

"Tues, Aug 10 — (On LaPrele). (George) Powell's train got to Milk Ranch with 2nd trip of freight. Heard of Indians stealing stock on Cotton Wood & Horse Shoe.

"Wed, Aug 11 — (Ranch on LaPrele). Powell unloaded and had tire set. Whitehead, Daggett, McArthur & party come to Ranch, been prospecting, saw Indians. Working on Griffin's wagon.

"Thurs, Aug 12 — (Ranch on LaPrele). Phillips and Malon arrived. Powell's train started for 3rd trip. Griffin with them. Maj. Irvin (?) left. Jordan Pharris went to Bow. Nath (Williams) arrived with train. Whitehead party still here. Executed freight bonds.

"Friday, Aug 13 — Train unloaded. Set tire. Whitehead party here. Comcd cutting hay for officers.

"Sat, Aug 14 — (Ranch on LaPrele). Train started P. M. Yoked 3 young steers. Whitehead party here.

"Sun, Aug 15 — Went to Post (Fetterman) and hay field. Whitehead party left.

"Mon, Aug 16 — Capt. Luhn left. Col. Mason left. Maj. Cain left. Worked on wagon bed all day.

"Wed. Aug 18 — (Ranch on LaPrele). Mail arrived. S&W bill 56\$. Trabing Bros. note given \$207.98. Heard of old man being killed by Indians. Worked on wagon bed.

"Thurs. Aug 19 — (On LaPrele). Dines train arrived and unloaded. Went to Post (Fetterman). Hay party got in. Dennizen and Bush arvd.

"Fryday, Aug 20 — (On LaPrele). Went to Post (Fetterman) with Sam (Groves). Put brake on spring wagon. Preparing to start to Chugg. Pat & George making dobies and root house. Lord arvd. with train.

"Sat. Aug 21 — Started to Chugg. Sam, Ward & Gert Morse with me. Nooned at Labontee.

"Sun, Aug 22 — Staid at Johnson's Ranch last night. Got Dick (the deer). Nooned on Laramie. Got to Ranch (Bordeaux) sun down. Tom quite sick. Bullock gone to Cheyenne.

"Mon, Aug 23 — (Bordeaux). Repairing mower, etc., preparing to make hay. Colon Hunter here today. Tom quite sick."

Perhaps the "Colon Hunter" mentioned above was Colin Hunter, one of the pioneer cattle men between Fort Laramie and Chey-

enne, who was to become Hunton's partner in the cow business many years later.

It is assumed the "Tom", whose serious illness is chronicled in the following entries, was Tom Hunton, John Hunton's brother who was apparently associated with him in numerous early enterprises. Tom Hunton and his wife, Mora, also a Virginia girl, were prominent pioneer citizens of the Wheatland community where their descendants still live.

*"Tues, Aug 24 — (Bordeaux).
Mail passed north. Letter from "Tip" &
Sis. Tom quite unwell. Comcd haying.
Collin's Camp grass very short. Machine
got out of order.*

*"Wed, Aug 25 — (Bordeaux).
4 A. M. started to (Fort) Laramie for
Doctor. Tom worse. Got back to Ranch
with Dr. Powell 6 P. M. Haying.*

*"Thurs, Aug 26 — (Bordeaux).
Tom little better. Dr. remained all day.
Operated on Duke and cut a tumor from
him.*

*"Fryday, Aug 27 — (Fort Laramie).
Took Dr. Powell to (Fort) Laramie.
Will stay all night. Tom little better.
Cpts. VanVliet & Wells went to
(Fort) Laramie. Haying.*

*"Sat, Aug 28 — (Bordeaux).
4 A. M. started to Ranch. 9 A. M. arrived
at Ranch. Tom no better. Making hay.*

"Sun, Aug 29 — (Bordeaux). Repairing machine and raking hay. Tom about same.

"Mon, Aug 30 — (Bordeaux). Tom about same. Hauling hay.

"Tues, Aug 31 — (Bordeaux). Tom same. Mail north, Kuykendall with it. Letter from Maj. Moore. Contracts not arrived at his office. John L. Collins and Indian Commiss. went to (Fort) Laramie. Kelly here tonight.

The "Kuykendall" referred to was probably the late Judge W. L. Kuykendall, an active member of the Laramie County Stock Association since its first meeting in 1873, and one of its early secretaries. The judge was also a pioneer justice of the peace in Cheyenne and politically prominent in the area for many years. And the "Kelly" in all likelihood was Hiram B. (Hi) Kelly, one of Wyoming's most fabled pioneer ranchers who first passed through this territory about 1847, is reputed to have shipped the first carload of cattle from Wyoming in 1870 and who survived many Indian fights.

In his accounts for August Hunton shows small cash payments to Noel Seminole and Nath Williams.

"Wed, Sept 1 — (Bordeaux). Hauled and cut some hay. Bal. of Indian Commission passed. Wrote to Jim Harris and Trabing.

"Thurs, Sept 2 — (Bordeaux). Tom same. Finished hauling hay. Very windy.

"Fryday, Sept 3 — (Bordeaux). Had a roundup. Branded 91 calves including 27 bull calves. Tom improving. Sold 3 steers that strayed from beef herd at Fetterman last winter to Carpenter for \$100.

"Sat, Sept 4 — (Bordeaux). Sam and Williams went to Laramie River to make hay. Took 4 mules, Ben horse, Sam's sorrel pony and cow and calf, 6 week's provisions. Tom improving a little.

"Sun, Sept 5 — (Bordeaux). Gathered up and branded 10 calves. Paymaster, H. Haas and Wilson Whitney etc. passed north. Tom about same.

"Mon, Sept 6 — Went to Bullock place. Sam doing well, making hay. P. M. went to Fort (Laramie). Heard Jules Ecoffey got robbed in Cheyenne. Tom improving."

One Jules Ecoffey is recorded as having operated a stage station near Register Cliff in the 1850's, on what is now known as the Guernsey Ranch. We assume that Julius Ecoffey, an early rancher of the Ecoffey & Cuny

outfit near Fort Laramie, was the same man.

"Tues, Sept 7 — Staid at Post (Fort Laramie) with Kelly. Went to 3-Mile Ranch to Election. Voted —D. ticket. Also Lallee. 120 votes polled. 95 Democratic. Dull time. Borrowed 3 Sks. grain of Kelly. Nice day.

"Wed. Sept 8 — (Bordeaux). Got home at noon. Tom better. Hauling dobies. Laid out chicken house.

"Thurs. Sept 9 — (Bordeaux). Branded 11 calves making 121 in all branded at Ranch. Wrote to Maine & Winchester for saddles.

"Fryday, Sept 10 — Started to Fetterman. Stopped at Bullock place. Hay making getting along well. Dug some potatoes. Quality good, yield poor.

"Sat, Sept 11 — Digging potatoes today. Bargained with Jim Heath to work on hay.

"Sun, Sept 12 — Started to Fetterman. Nooned on Cottonwood. Horse Shoe 5 P. M. Colon Hunter here.

"Mon, Sept 13 — (Ranch on LaPrele). Staid last night on Horse Shoe at Ranch. Nooned on Wagon Hound. Got to Milk Ranch P. M. Enough dobies made for chicken house. No hay at Ranch.

"Tues, Sept 14 — (On LaPrele). Went to Post (Fetterman). Everything as

usual. Borrowed 25\$ of Jordan. Comcd building chicken house.

"Wed, Sept 15 — (LaPrele). Went to Post (Fetterman). Played pool lost 50c. Played cards won 25\$. Mail arvd. Work on chicken house.

"Thurs. Sept 16 — (LaPrele). Wrote Dowling & Purcell to buy hens. Mail went south. Work on chicken house.

"Sat, Sept 18 — (LaPrele). Went to Post (Fetterman). Staid all day. Wood received. Went security to Jordan for Jim Harwood in amt. of \$167.25 payable in 6 Mo. Portugee Phillips arvd.

"Sun, Sept. 19 — (On LaPrele). Went to Noel Seminoles.

"Mon, Sept 20 — (LaPrele). Went to Post (Fetterman). Borrowed 5 bus. coal of Q. M. Wood measured 66 cords. Quite heavy frost last night.

"Tues, Sept 21 — (On LaPrele). Campbell took outfit to Box Elder. Recruits arvd at Fetterman. Horses strayed.

"Wed, Sept 22 — Went to Post (Fetterman). Horses not found. Repairing chains. Loaned Hedges (?) 20\$. Pd Dr. Gibson \$16.25.

"Thurs, Sept 23 — (On LaPrele). Campbell found horses on LaBonte. Gen. Grover come to Fetterman. Cool nights, warm days.

"Friday, Sept 24 — Went to Post. Staid all day. Lost 17\$ at cards & pool. Helped corral beef and butcher.

"Sat, Sept 25 — (LaPrele). Lallee quite sick all night and today. Dr. Gibson to see her.

"Sun, Sept 26 — (LaPrele). Hunting party out, VanVliet, Farris, etc. Lallee still sick. Dr. here. Campbell come to Ranch from Box Elder. Getting on well making dobies. Tom helped corral & butcher beef.

"Mon, Sept 27 — (LaPrele). Putting roof on hen house A. M. Went to Post (Fetterman) P. M. with John Boyd. Heard Indians were acting bad at Agency Council. That they had killed a man on Laramie. Attacked hay train near Bridger's Ferry. Tom helped corral and butcher beef.

"Tues, Sept 28 — (On LaPrele). Lallee very sick. Dr. here. Mail and letters from Trabing, Dowling & Powell. Covering chicken house.

"Wed, Sept 29 — (On LePrele). Lallee still very sick. Dr. in regular attendance. Train arrived at Ranch.

"Thurs, Sept 30—(LaPrele). Went to Post (Fetterman). Train unloaded. Freight bond returned. Cavalry sent to Bridgers Ferry after Indians. Ice last night. Lallee better.

"Fryday, Oct 1 — Train started to (Medicine) Bow. Yoked the two Johnson steers. Went to Post (Fetterman). Borrowed 400\$ of Jordan. Heard Wilson suspended. Nice day.

"Sat, Oct 2 — (LaPrele). Paid Martin \$300. Went to Post (Fetterman). Staid all day. Capt. Luhn returned. Powells train arrived. Fishers train arrived.

"Sun, Oct 3 — (LaPrele). Went to Post with Geo. Powell. Borrowed \$500 of Jordan. Paid Powell 250\$. Cavalry gone on scout to Bridgers Ferry.

"Mon, Oct 4 — Started to Chugg. Lallee with me.

"Tues, Oct 5 — Staid last night at Johnson & Walkers on Horse Shoe. Left 25\$ with Mike for Johnson. Nooned at Phillips. Got to Bullock Ranch sundown. Mr. Bullock at his Ranch. Sam (Groves) & Jim Heath making fence. done haying.

"Wed, Oct 6 — Went with Mr. Bullock to Post (Fort Laramie). Executed contract bond. Bullock & Phillips bondsmen. Borrowed 2 sacks corn of Capt. Mix. Loan Bullock 20\$. Staid at Bullock ranch last night. Paid J. L. Collins 50\$.

"Thurs, Oct 7 — (Bordeaux). Staid at Bullock Ranch all night. Went by Phillips, got him to sign bond Home noon. Whitcomb here. wants bull calves & steers. Sam (Groves) & Jim coming with mule

wagon from Bullock Ranch. Sent Williams after Mr. Bullock. Nice day.

"Fryday, Oct 8 — (Bordeaux),. Rounding up cattle. Corralled 19 bulls, 21 steers and branded 10 young calves. Mr. Bullock come. Sold Whitcomb 18 bull calves for 680\$ & 21 steers at 3c per lb.

"Sat, Oct 9 — (Bordeaux). Sent cattle sold Whitcomb to Horse Creek by Jim Hunton, Sam, Jim Heath & Ward. Phillips passed to Fetterman. Whitcomb left.

"Sun, Oct 10 — Start to Fetterman horseback. Jim & Bill horses and Whitcomb mule. Suffering from a boil on my stern. Nice day.

"Mon, Oct 11 — Staid all night at (T. A.) Kent's Ranch. Met Johnson & Stewart. Got to Horse Shoe. Boil hurting so bad will go no farther. Met Denison & Dyne outfit at Cotton Wood. Labon-tee people taking away cattle sold Swan.

The "Swan" referred to above could have been any member of the early cattle firm of Swan Brothers, either Alexander, Thomas, Henry or Henry's son William. The Swan clan were numerous and enduring. There is perhaps no better known or more lasting name in Wyoming's cow country. The various Swan companies enter frequently into this journal throughout the years. And "The Swan Company" of today is still ranching on the "Chugg."

"Tues, Oct 12 — Staid last night at Johnson & Walkers on Horse Shoe. Met Col. Mason on LaBontee hill going to (Fort) Laramie. Nooned at LaBontee with soldiers. Got to Milk Ranch (on LaPrele) at sundown. Found everything all right. Boil very sore. Nice day.

"Thurs, Oct 14 — (LaPrele). Went to Post (Fetterman). Wrote to Trabing Bros. giving note for \$353.66. Johnsons men here all day. Hunter & Abbott arrived with cattle. Drove cattle to slaughter house.

"Fryday, Oct 15 — (LaPrele). Fixing hay racks for Hathaway to haul hay. Train arrived, only two of my wagons. Johnsons men went to Deer Creek to hunt cattle. Hunter & Abbott butchered 2 heaviest steers O.S.

"Sun, Oct 17 — (LaPrele). Went to Post (Fetterman). Helped (Malcolm) Campbell corral O. S. steers. Killed pig. Took cattle to Box Elder. Col. Chambers arrived.

"Mon, Oct 18 — (LaPrele). Went to Post (Fetterman). Staid all day. Recd telegram no freight. Sent 30\$ to Jim Hunton by Ward. No freight and will take off wagon beds and go after poles.

"Tues, Oct 19 — Staid at Post (Fetterman) last night. Chambers, Jordan went to Cheyenne. Borrowed 7 axes of Q.M. Employed 4 choppers and started

with them to the timber. Geo. McMillan with 5 teams started after poles.

"Wed, Oct 20 — (Milk Ranch on LaPrele). Staid last night at (Malcomb) Campbell's on Box Elder. Took choppers into the timber. Got to Milk Ranch after night. Lord (freighting) outfit went to Box Elder. Got a boil on my stern. Nice day.

"Thurs, Oct 21 — (LaPrele). Boil troublesome. Murphy left. Hathaway arrived with about 3 tons of the Wagonhound hay, broke one wagon.

"Fryday, Oct 22 — (LaPrele). (Captain) Mix and Spaulding Co's. camped near the Post last night. Went to Post (Fetterman) with Col. Van Vliet. Telegram from Nath (Williams) wanting 2 men. Lost 4\$ at cards. Went to Ranch with Camp.

"Sun, Oct 24 — At Ranch on (LaPrele) all day. (Malcomb) Campbell corralled four O. S. steers.

"Mon, Oct 25 — (LaPrele). Went to Post (Fetterman). George Powell train arrived with vegetables for me and freight for Jordan. Unloaded vegetables & corn & butter. Cold. Nights freezing.

"Tues, Oct 26 — (LaPrele). Went to Post (Fetterman) with (George) Powell to unload. Brought up four sows bought of Col. Van Vliet. Got bbl salt

of Dyne, give him 11 lbs. coffee. Bargained with Van Vliet to carry baggage for "A" Co., 4th Inftry to Med. Bow. Powell to start with it Saturday.

"Wed, Oct 27 — (LaPrele). Butchered five hogs. (Malcomb) Campbell here. Unloaded one load hay, lost $\frac{1}{2}$ by high wind. Train arrived with poles for hay racks & fence. Dyne started below. Very windy.

"Thurs, Oct 28 — (LaPrele). Cut up and salted pork. Found Van Vliet sows Wt. 1025, Slaughter house hog 301. Making hay racks. Went to Post (Fetterman) to mail letter containing voucher for \$651.19. 9 P. M. snowing fast.

"Fryday, Oct 29 — (LaPrele). Went to Post (Fetterman) to see about B.L. No. 8 and No. 13 deficient in weights. Men making hay racks. (George) Powell fixing to start with "A" Co. Several inches snow on ground. 1 P. M. snowing fast.

"Sat, Oct 30 — (LaPrele). Making sausage. (George) Powell & (Ed) Smith went to Post (Fetterman) to load baggage of "A" Co. 4th Inftry. Finished hay racks and started five wagons to Box Elder for hay. Corralled 4 O.S. beef steers. Cheyenne & Arapahoe indians come into Post. Pleasant day, snow nearly all disappeared.

"Sun, Oct 31 — (Malcomb Camp-

bell's Ranch on Box Elder). Lord took his team to Post (Fetterman) to load baggage. (George) Powell 2 teams, Ed Smith one and Lord one team carried Co. "A" baggage to Med. Bow. Jordan arrived from Cheyenne. Went to Box Elder with Campbell, took over some cattle."

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TWO PIONEERS IN THEIR LATER YEARS

This likeness of two outstanding Wyoming pioneer citizens was taken about 1930 beside the adobe Sutler's Store building at Fort Laramie, which to our knowledge is the oldest permanent structure in the state. For this historic photograph we are indebted to Warren Richardson, of Cheyenne, a member of the Wyoming Historical Landmark Commission.



Malcomb Campbell

Earnest Logan

Malcomb Campbell, Hunton's close friend and business associate in the 70's, later became one of the West's most famous sheriffs. The boarded up opening directly behind Mr. Campbell is a window of the room shared by John Hunton and Scout Jim Bridger during the winter of 1867.

Earnest Logan was one of the last Cheyenne-Black Hills stage drivers. In his later years he made artistic things of metal including, we understand, the silver spurs given winners at Cheyenne's Frontier Days. His shop was in the Plains Hotel. Novelist Olga Moore recalls that when she was quite small Mr. Logan gave her a set of three little hand made bracelets, copper, silver and brass — fended off her fulsome girlish thanks with, "Dear Child, if I had known you would carry on so over anything so little, I would have given you a horse." His daughter, Mrs. John Schadel, is on the Cheyenne *Wyoming Eagle* staff.

"Mon, Nov 1 — (Campbell's Ranch). Staid all night at Campbells. Went to hay field. Too windy to load. Went to wood choppers camp and showed them wood. Went back to Campbell's.

"Tues, Nov 2 — (LaPrele). Went down Box Elder with Jim Fields, found Fisher's horses. Went down Platte to Post (Fetterman). Saw great many ducks. Wood choppers come in for provisions. Got home sundown.

"Thurs, Nov 4 — (LaPrele). Wagons got to ranch and unloaded hay. Mail south. Col. Chambers, Capt. Ferris arrived. (Malcomb) Campbell went home P. M. after our bargaining that he get Missouri Jim to build on and hold hay bottom, or take the two teams sent for logs and haul poles to build for Nath Williams to hold it. Two teams went for logs to floor Campbell's house.

"Fryday, Nov 5 — (LaPrele). Killing the Milk Ranch hogs. At Post (Fetterman). Butcher had my horse to hunt old steer. Nath Williams arrived at Ranch with 4 teams light loaded. Flour from Trabing Bros.

"Sat, Nov 6 — (LaPrele). Wagons went to Post (Fetterman) to unload. Fixing wagons to start for poles. Went to Post. Two teams with logs come. Co. "C" Cav. preparing to leave.

"Sun, Nov 7 — (LaPrele). Branding some of work cattle. Went to Post (Fetterman) for the Cavalry hogs. Van Vliet order on Jordan for 150\$ pay for hogs. Give Speed Stagner a pig.

"Mon, Nov 8 — (LaPrele). Started 9 ox teams for poles. Co. "C" 5th Cav. left Fetterman for Sydney via Med. Bow. With bull teams. Paymaster Stanton arrived.

"Tues, Nov 9 — Lost 26 head (work) cattle last night on hill above Spring Canon. Hunted all day. Did not find them.

"Wed, Nov 10 — Teams continued on for poles with 64 head oxen. (Nath) Williams hunting other 26 head. I started to Ranch (on LaPrele). Fisher arrived at his place with three (women). Killed Cav. pigs. Hathaway got 3 hogs. (Malcomb) Campbell at Ranch tonight. Nice day."

"Women" was not the term used by Mr. Hunton in the above entry to designate the three females who accompanied Mr. Fisher to his place. Instead he employed a word not commonly found in journals for family reading. One editor of that era, with a delicate touch, avoided printing the blunt name our chronicler used by substituting therefore, if we recall correctly, the phrase "soiled lilies".

"Thurs, Nov 11 — (Ranch on La-Prele). Went to Post (Fetterman) on Milk Wagon. Took shotgun to be repaired by blacksmith. (Malcomb) Campbell, Tom Bowen & McMillan took calves to Box Elder. P. M. snowing.

"Sat, Nov 13 — (Fort Fetterman). Staid at Sutlers store all night. At Quartermaster's sale of soldier clothing bought: 20 overcoats, average price 2.50; 14 pr pants, average price 95c; 25 pr over shoes, average price 10c. Went to Ranch on milk wagon. Missouri Jim & Pat at Ranch with 2 horses.

To provide a bit of background on the gold rush to the Black Hills and the Indian wars which followed, short excerpts from newspaper stories of the day will be inserted from time to time. We are deeply grateful to Mrs. Olga M. Arnold, presently of Washington, D. C., for much of the news material used and for other assistance in this work. She dug out the stories from ancient newspaper files in the Library of Congress. Mrs. Arnold has written two popular books which have their roots in the West, "Wind Swept" and "I'll Meet You in the Lobby". She is also the author of many short stories which have appeared in leading American and European magazines. Her father, the late Jack Moore, of Buffalo, Wyoming, was one of Johnson County's most colorful pio-

neers. She is the widow of the late Carl Arnold who was dean of the Wyoming University Law School and writes under her maiden name, Olga Moore. We hope there will be much more from her delightful pen and battered portable to further enrich our western literature.

And much of the material for background comment on individuals mentioned by Mr. Hunton has been gleaned from reading Virginia Cole Trenholm's fascinating book, "Footprints on the Frontier", in which she recounts the history and activities of hundreds of Wyoming's earliest pioneers, many of whom were John Hunton's associates and cronies.

"The Bordeaux Story" by Mrs. Trenholm, published in the July, 1954 "Annals of Wyoming" is perhaps the most complete and interesting history ever written of James Bordeaux, from whom Hunton's early home and road-ranch on the "Chugg" got its name. At this writing old Bordeaux is on the ranch property of Fred Prewitt.

Following are excerpts from a prophetic story in the old Cheyenne *Wyoming Weekly Leader*:

"Nov. 13, 1875 — Jim Sanders an old pioneer and well known in these parts, arrived from the Black Hills in this city Saturday last. Sanders is not a geologist and therefore had no difficulty in determining that gold exists in paying quanti-

ties in the Hills. He brought in about \$300 worth of the precious metal and says there is lots more where that was taken out. His party has diggings that with the proper sluices will pay from \$20 to \$30 a day per man . . . The gold shown by Sanders is coarse, heavy gold worth \$19.45 an ounce in coin . . . We should not be surprised to find the Hills in the possession of 5,000 miners by the first of May next".

To resume with the diary:

"Mon. Nov 15 — (Ft. Fetterman). George Powell's teams arrived with Co. "A" 2nd Cav. baggage and unloaded.

"Tues. Nov 16 — (LaPrele). Went to Noel's (Seminole) with beaver skins. P.M. went to Post (Fetterman) with Powell. Mail arrived. 8 P. M. Wm. Roe shot at Fishers by "Cully". Roe taken to hospital.

It will be recalled that three damsels of dubious deportment arrived and presumably took up their abode at Fisher's on November 10. It all gives rise to the possibility that Mr. "Fisher's Place" may have been sort of a frontier hot spot.

"Wed. Nov 17 — Went to Post (Fetterman). Fisher, (George) Powell & Minuse (?) start in pursuit of "Cully"

and arrest him at Fields Ranch and put him in guard house.

"Thurs, Nov 18 — (LaPrele). Staid at Post last night. Train got to Ranch with poles. Griffin got to Post.

"Fryday, Nov 19 — (LaPrele). Sent Tom Bowen to Box Elder on my horse after oxen. Reloading poles to start to Chugg. Williams & Bowen gathering all the cattle.

"Sat. Nov 20 — (LaPrele). (Nath) Williams started to Chugg with nine wagons loaded with fence poles."

— — —

And this item appeared in the Cheyenne newspaper:

"Nov, 20 1875 — We learn by letter from Fort Laramie that the bridge across the Platte river may be considered a thing accomplished.

"On the 12th of this month the second and middle span was raised, and soon, ten days at the farthest, the third and last span will be up.

"With this fine iron bridge crossing the swollen Platte next spring, the point of departure from the railroad for the Black Hills and the upper country is settled definitely at Cheyenne."

"Thurs, Nov 25 — (LaPrele). At Post last night. Went to Ranch. Telegram about Mary."



*Early Photograph of Historic Military Bridge
Across the Platte River Near Fort Laramie*

There appears to be some close connection or relationship between "Mary" and Lallee, (see May 12, 1873), but the writer does not feel justified in stating positively what it was.

"Fryday, Nov 26 — At Post (Fetterman) in A. M. Ranch P. M. Paid off Tom Bowen 387\$ in full.

"Sat. Nov 27 — Started to Chugg in Company with (William) Pye. Many deer seen on road.

"Sun, Nov 28 — Staid at Johnson & Walkers last night. 3 P. M. got to Phillips.

"Mon, Nov 29 — Staid at Phillips all night. Overtook train at Beaver House. Got to Ranch (Bordeaux) at noon. Train got here 3 P. M. Sam got here 5 P. M.

"Tues. Nov 30 — (Bordeaux). Train unloaded and started back to Fetterman. Sam Groves went to (Fort) Laramie with light wagon. Kent's men staid all night.

"Thurs, Dec 2 — (Bordeaux). Went to Chugg Springs. Saw "Persimmon Bill." Bill come from (Fort) Laramie. Wulfjen and men at Ranch tonight with cattle.

"Fryday, Dec 3 — (Bordeaux). (Persimmon) Bill started to Cheyenne with 4 mule team. Started to Fetterman with light wagon. "Bat" with me.

— — —

The "Bat" he is talking about was "Little Bat" (Baptiste Garnier), and following is a condensed history of Little Bat as written by Mr. Hunton and published in the *Fort Laramie Scout* of Dec. 9, 1926:

BAPTISTE GARNIER

— By John Hunton —

"Baptiste Garnier (Little Bat) was born in the neighborhood of Fort Laramie, Nebraska territory . . . 1854. His father was a Canadian Frenchman, his mother a Sioux Indian. His father was killed by Cheyenne Indians in . . . 1856, at the mouth of Deer Creek where Glenrock now stands.

"When about 8 years old, his mother having died, he was taken to the family of E. W. Whitcomb, whose wife was a relative. In 1872 he commenced making his home at Hunton's Ranch at Bordeaux on Chugwater Creek . . . he developed into a fine worker . . . and extraordinary fine

hunter . . . they were close companions on many hunting and traveling trips.

"In March, 1876 he was (a guide) with the Crook expedition against the Sioux and was in the fight with Crazy Horse's band of Indians. After returning from that lamentable fiasco he went (back) to Hunton's Ranch. In May, 1876 he joined the command of Col. Merritt as scout for the 5th U. S. Cavalry . . . attracted the special attention of General Crook and his officers . . . gained their respect and confidence. He was at Hunton's Ranch at the time the Indians killed Jim Hunton and ran off all of Hunton's mules and horses.

"In June and July 1877 he was with Hunton, only two of them, riding over the country adjacent to Camp McKinney, looking for hay, extending their ride as far as where Sheridan now stands.

"He married a daughter of M. A. Mouseau . . . made his home in camps in the Fort Fetterman neighborhood and worked on wood and hay contracts for Hunton . . . until 1880. His last service at Fort Laramie was a courier between that place and Fort Robinson and Bordeaux in 1890. I could write a great deal more concerning his life ALL commendatory.

"He was called "Little Bat" to distinguish him from Baptiste Pourier. Both

lived in the family of John Richard (Reshaw) for several years. One was "Big Bat" and the other "Little Bat".

"General Crook considered Little Bat as one of his most valuable scouts and best hunter. He met an untimely death at the hands of an assassin at Crawford, Nebraska."

"Sat, Dec 4 — Staid at Kent's Ranch last night. Nooned at Cottonwood Ranch.

"Sun, Dec 5 — Staid at Johnson & Walkers last night. Got to log camp at noon. Overtook train here. Bat killed a deer.

"Mon, Dec 6 — (Log Camp). Cutting logs. Hunting. Saw band of elk. Will give chase tomorrow. Bat killed 3 deer.

"Tues, Dec 7 — (Log Camp). Started for elk, found them where they were yesterday. Chased and killed 18. Bill Robinson killed one and Tom deer. Loaded logs. Little snow, nice day.

"Wed, Dec 8 — (Log Camp). Hauled elk to camp. "Bat" killed 7 more.

"Thurs, Dec 9 — (Log Camp). Went for elk "Bat" killed and finished loading elk and logs. Killed one deer. Tillotson went for his wife.

A man named Tillotson had two bars at Fetterman, one for the freighters, local citizens and enlisted men, another for the post's officers.

"Fryday, Dec 10 — (In camp on small creek). "Bat" & I started and went in camp on small creek. Killed 5 deer. Teams did not start. Will stay all night here.

"Sat, Dec 11 — (On LaPrele). Started at light. Killed one deer. Borrowed bread at LaBontee Ranch for breakfast. Got to Milk Ranch 3 P. M. Everything all right.

"Sun, Dec 12 — (LaPrele). Went to Post (Fetterman). Staid all day. Lost 13\$ at cards which I had previously won. Colon Hunter come to Ranch with beef cattle.

"Tues, Dec 14 — (LaPrele). Went to Post (Fetterman) and staid all day. Hathaway had wagon to go for beef. Train got to Ranch with logs.

"Wed. Dec 15 — (LaPrele). Went to Post in company with Capt Luhn. Train unloaded logs. Tillotson arrived with family. Letter from Mr. Bullock, Allison.

"Thurs, Dec 16 — (LaPrele). Made up all the teamsters accounts. Went to Post borrowed \$200 of Pat Sullivan. One hundred of Tom Henry & \$73.83 of Tillotson.

"Fryday, Dec 17 — (LaPrele). Paid men in part and discharged them all. Bill Robinson rowing at ranch.

"Sun, Dec 19 — (Malcomb Campbell's Ranch). (Little) Bat & I started on hunt in light wagon to go as far as Box Elder. Will then go in ox wagons from there. Got to Box Elder P.M. Everything ready.

"Mon, Dec 20 — (On hunt). Staid at Campbell's last night. 9 A.M. started with (Nath) Williams and party hunting. Commenced snowing about 4 A.M. and snowed til 1 P.M.

"Tues, Dec 21 — (On hunt). Staid last night near Deer Creek. This morning moved onto Deer Creek & saw large band of Elk. Heavy drifts of snow here and in the hills.

"Wed, Dec 22 — (On hunt). Camped on Deer Creek last night. 8 A.M. moved to place near elk on little creek. Went in camp and went after elk. Ki'lled and gutted 97. Bat & I done the ki'lling. Nath (Williams) and the boys gutted them.

"Thurs, Dec 23 — (On hunt). Broke camp early. Wagons and 4 men went for elk killed yesterday. "Bat", Austin Long & myself went after band of elk and killed and gutted 26. Party with wagons killed 3, and camped foot of mountain 10 miles west of Deer Creek. 10 P.M. comcd snowing.

"Fryday, Dec 24 — (On hunt). In camp all day. Have been suffering with tooth ache ever since we started until late last night. 12 M. continued snowing all night & still at it. Not cold. 3 P.M. clear.

"Sat, Dec 25—(On hunt). Snaked 15 elk out of the timber to good place to load. Snow squalls at intervals all day. Not cold. 6 P.M. snowing fast and windy, snow drifting.

"Sun, Dec 26 — (Malcomb Campbell's Ranch). Bat & I started to Ranch and took horses with us on account of snow being so deep could not get grass. Got to Campbell's at dark. Very hard wind and snow drifting badly all day.

"Mon, Dec 27 — (On LePrele). Staid at Campbell's last night. Got to Ranch 1 P.M. Everything all right. Pat (Sullivan?) & Blodgett come to ranch for provisions. Very fine, warm, still day.

"Wed, Dec 29 — (LaPrele). Staid last night at Post (Fetterman). Collins here, paid Pat's order of 40\$. Recd check of Q.M. for \$967.82. Paid Walpole \$500. Sent Dr. Powell 20\$ to Clark Station U.P.R.R. Borrowed horse of Speed (Stagner) to ride home. Borrowed 75\$ in gold from Mrs. Harris. Good weather.

"Thurs, Dec 30 — (LaPrele). Wrote Col Van Vliet, Q.C., Whippley power attorney Capt Gillis. Went to Post

on Speed's horse. Walker, Stuart & Daily come to Post. Two latter staid all night with me. Sent gold by mail carrier to get saddles. Telegraphed Bullock about bridge. Snowing from here to Ft. Laramie.

"Fryday, Dec 31 — (LaPrele Milk Ranch). Went to Post with Stuart and Daily. They, Walker & Campbell went to Box Elder to hunt cattle. Capt. Luhn started on leave of absence. Capt. Cain resigned. Went across Platte with Speed (Stagner) and got two stray mules. Speed won first choice!"

Several years before his death Mr. Hunton wrote a more detailed account of that elk hunt of 80 years ago. As a conclusion to this first full year of his diary, following is a condensation of that story as published in the *Fort Laramie Scout* (a defunct weekly newspaper) on November 25, 1926.

AN ELK HUNT IN 1875

-By John Hunton-

"About the first of November I found myself the possessor of a "bull outfit", 10 or 12 unpaid "bullwhackers", but no contract work and but little money, the government being slow in paying for the work I had done during the summer.

"To keep my men employed until my vouchers were paid I sent nine six-yoke teams to Box Elder Canon, 35 miles

southwest of Fort Fetterman, to cut pine poles and load 300 poles 15 feet long to each team. Nathan Williams was the wagon master in charge of this pole outfit. On the 18th this train got back to my milk ranch on LaPrele Creek three and a half miles southwest of Fort Fetterman, and on the 20th started for Bordeaux on Chugwater Creek, about 85 miles distant, loaded with as fine a lot of poles as could be found anywhere.

"I was detained at Fort Fetterman, to provide transportation for soldiers changing stations, until the 27th when I started to Bordeaux accompanied by William Pye, arriving the afternoon of the 29th, having passed the train three miles from Bordeaux. The poles were unloaded the next day and the train started on the return trip that afternoon, with instructions to leave the Fetterman road after getting to a bend in the road at the top of Horse-shoe Hill and follow a dim game trail to a certain point (this point is a little north of Estabrook); then turn down a ridge until arriving at a small stream, select a good place to camp, and then cut and load three good logs to each wagon. I had visited this particular place with Lt. Col. John S. Mason, commanding officer of Fort Fetterman, the winter before, and he had declared it a 'timber reservation' and had given me permission to cut logs for

lumber for my own use, and if I was not there by the time he (Wagon Master Nathan Williams) was loaded he was to proceed to Fetterman and unload the logs at the sawmill.

"On the 3rd of December I started to Fort Fetterman in a light wagon, accompanied by Baptiste Garnier (Little Bat). We had a hunting horse which was led behind the wagon. We traveled slow, stopping on the North Laramie river the first night; the second night on Horseshoe Creek. We got to the log camp about noon on the 5th and found the outfit in camp cutting logs and two or three men who had joined the party loafing in camp.

"On the 6th of December the men cut logs and "Bat" and I went hunting. We killed three deer and located a small band of elk but did not disturb them. On the 7th the men loaded some logs and "Bat" and I went for the elk. We found them near where we saw them the day before, made a run on them and killed 18, which we dressed and properly prepared for hauling. We got back to the log camp before sunset. The next day, the 8th "Bat" went with a man and team to haul the elk to camp and while so employed saw a small band of elk and killed seven of them, but brought in only 18 elk, which was a very heavy load for the three or four yoke of cattle. On the 9th the seven elk were

brought into camp and all the logs and elk were loaded on the wagons. It was a novel sight — nine heavy lead wagons with three large logs on each wagon and two elk with legs tied together swung over the logs near the center, and seven of the trail wagons with an elk lashed on the logs.

“On the 10th ‘Bat’ and I cut loose from the wagons and started for the milk ranch (on LaPrele) and Fort Fetterman, but to hunt on the way. We camped early in the afternoon on LaBonte Creek about four miles up-stream from the telegraph road, expecting the train to reach that point, but it had bad luck and did not start. We killed five deer that afternoon. We had meat and coffee but no bread. We started at light next morning and borrowed some bread from a Frenchman named Flagothier at the LaBonte crossing and got to the milk ranch (on LaPrele) about three P.M. the 11th.

“The train got in and unloaded logs on the 15th. On the 17th we paid off the men and organized a party for a big elk hunt. The party consisted of Nathan Williams, Daniel Sleeper, William Marsh, John Long, Austin Long, ‘Bat’ and myself, three five-yoke ox teams with large tents, provisions to last a month, oats for our saddle horses (‘Bat’s’ and mine) and all the necessary equipment for hunting

and camping. The men and teams left the Milk ranch the 18th and went to Box Elder ranch, where the S.O. ranch belonging to Carey Bros. now stands. 'Bat' and I joined them there on the evening of the 19th.

"We left the Box Elder ranch at nine A.M. the 20th, traveled southwest up the creek, now called Hunton Creek, to the top of the divide, and then westerly, descending to within about two and a half miles of Deer Creek, where we went into camp near a grove of dry aspen trees. At this place we got a very strong scent of elk and I sent Bat to see if he could locate them. He returned about dark and reported having seen elk four or five miles beyond Deer Creek. He afterwards told me there were more elk than 'I ever see'd before', the band more than a mile long. Next morning I cautioned the men not to pop their whips or make any unnecessary noise. They were careful. We broke camp about sunup, moved quietly and got across Deer Creek with the teams without any trouble.

"Williams, 'Bat' and I rode ahead and located the elk. Williams then went back to the teams and worked them up to a place we had selected and doubled the teams back alongside the wagons and chained the leaders to the hind wheel of the wagon of each team. Sleeper and

March were left near the teams. Williams and the Long boys, being mounted on ponies, joined Bat and I. We placed these three men as near the lower end of the band of elk as we could get them without being discovered, with instructions that as soon as they heard a shot by Bat or myself they were to run their ponies into the band of elk as fast as possible, dismount and kill as many as they could, then follow along and kill and dress all they could.

"Bat went to the right of the band of elk and I to the left. We worked our way along for nearly a quarter of a mile when we saw we had been discovered. We then made a dash into the herd and commenced to shoot. Our dash into the herd cut off some two or three hundred from the main herd, which gave Williams and the Long boys a fine chance to get right into the midst of them and they killed eight very close together. They dressed the eight and went back and brought up the teams and followed along the trail. In a very short time after the first shot was fired the main herd of elk had gotten on a good start for the mountains with Bat in close pursuit and part of the time right in amongst them.

"We followed them six or seven miles then quit, dismounted and rested our horses which were very tired. We then started back on the trail, dressing our game

as we went. This dressing consisted of removing the intestines, lights and liver from each dead elk. We worked back until we met the party and the wagons about half an hour before sunset. We then went into camp and after comparing notes found we had killed and dressed ninety-seven elk which were scattered along the trail for about seven miles."

Next Mr. Hunton quotes directly from his diary of the 23rd, 24th, 25th and 26th. Since these entries have been previously recorded, they will not be repeated here. His story then continues as follows:

"The teams with elk got to Deer Creek the day after I left them. They had to abandon twenty-two elk of the 26 killed by Austin Long, Bat and myself, as the snow had drifted so badly the party had to split up. Williams and Sleeper established camp on Deer Creek, keeping about half of the elk with them. Marsh and the Long boys got to the Milk ranch on LaPrele Creek with the three teams and half of the elk on January 5, 1876. The Long boys went for elk left on Deer Creek on January 7 with two teams and returned the 15th.

"I gave each company of soldiers at Fort Fetterman an elk and distributed eight or ten among my neighbors and cut up and dried most of the remainder. When

General Crook's expedition went out about the last of May I gave the general and a number of his officers quite a quantity of dried elk meat. The General appreciated it very highly and told me a number of times that he never enjoyed anything more than to be able to put his hand in his pocket, while on the march after Indians that summer, and pull out a piece of dried elk meat and munch away on it while the others were glad to get mule or pony meat.

"This is the last of my elk hunt during the Christmas season of 1875. During all the time we were out hostile Indians were bad and we were in danger of being attacked at any time, but fortunately escaped molestation by them."

CHRONOLOGICAL INDEX OF NAMES

- ADDOMS & GLOVES — 1875, January 1.
ALLISON — 1875, December 15.
AMERICAN HORSE, CHIEF — 1875 (Following)
May 8.
ARBER, PERRY — 1875, (Following) February 1.
ARNOLD, GEORGE — 1873, April 13.
ARNOLD, OLGA MOORE — (Following)
October 31 and November 13, 1875.
AUTHOR, JOHN — 1875, May 19.
BABCOCK, GENERAL — 1873, April 29.
BAD WOUND — 1875 (Following) May 8.
BARRETT, JOHN — 1875, (Following) February 1.
BIG BAT — (See Baptiste Poirier)
BIGGSBY, NOEL — 1875, August 4.
BINGHAM, MAJ. H. W. — 1875, (Following) May 8.
BISSMETTO, JOE — 1875, (Following) February 1.
BLACK BEAR — 1875, (Following) May 8.
BLACKBURN, DUNC — 1875, September 6.
BLACK CROW — 1875, (Following) May 8.
BLIVENS — 1875, June 20.
BLODGETT — 1875, December 27.
BON, S. — 1875, January 1.
BORDEAUX, JAMES — 1875, February 1.
(Following) November 13.
BORDEAUX, LEWIS — 1875, (Following) May 8.
BOSLER — 1875, May 20.
BOWEN, TOM — 1875, July 30,
November 11, 19, 26.
BOYD, JOHN — 1875, Jan. 1, Feb. 1, 6, April 8,
May 30, Sept. 27.
BOYER, JOHN — 1875, (Following) February 1.
BRIDGER, JIM — 1875, July 30, (Following)
October 31.
BROOKS — 1875, Feb. 28, March 1, April 5,
May 9, 20.
BROWN, LT. — 1875, January 20.
BULLOCK, W. G. — 1875, Feb. 4, March 13,
April 27, July 30, Oct. 5, Dec. 15, 30.

- BULLOCK, MRS. W. G. — 1875, July 21, 30.
BUSH — 1875, August 19.
CAIN, CAPT. — 1875, December 31.
CAIN, MAJ. — 1875, April 17, Aug. 16
CALIFORNIA, JOE — 1875, March 26.
CAMP — 1875, Jan. 20, March 25, May 26, Oct. 22.
CAMPBELL, MALCOMB — 1875, Jan. 1, Feb. 25,
March 16, April 10, May 20, 23, June 26,
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Nov. 1, 4, 10, Dec. 19, 31.
CANBY, GENERAL — 1873, April 12.
CARPENTER — 1873, July 28, September 3.
CHAMBERS, COL. — 1875, Oct. 17, 19, Nov. 4.
CLARK, G. — 1873, March 29, April 3.
CLAY, CHARLY (C. E.) — 1873, May 5; 1875,
May 21.
CLAY, D. R. — 1873, March 29.
COFFEE, CHARLEY — 1875, May 3.
COFFEY, E. — 1875, (Following) February 1.
COLLINS, J. or J. S. or JOHN L. — 1875, Jan. 1,
May 21, Aug. 31, Oct. 6, Dec. 29.
CONQUERING BEAR — 1875, (Following) May 8.
CONVERSE & WARREN — 1875, January 1.
COOK, HAROLD J. & JAMES H. — 1873,
(Following) May 12.
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CROSS & BURNHAM — 1875, February 25.
CULLY — 1875, November 16, 17.
CUNY, ADOLPH — 1873, March 27; 1875,
(Following) February 1.
DAGGETT — 1875, August 11.
DAILEY (DAILY) — 1875, December 30, 31.
DELANO, SECY. of INTERIOR — 1875,
(Following) May 8.
DENNIZEN — 1875, July 20, August 19.
DENNIZEEN & DINES (DYNES) — 1873, April 16;
1875, October 11.
DINES — 1875, August 19.
DUTCH WILLIAM — 1875, April 5.
DYER, T. — 1875, January 1.
DYNE — 1875, October 26, 27.

- EAST THUNDER — 1875, (Following) May 8.
ECOFFEY, JULES — 1873, March 27, May 10;
1875, September 6.
ELLIS, H. H. — 1875, January 1.
FACE SITTING BULL — 1875 (Following) May 8.
FARRIS or FERRIS, CAPT. — 1875, April 1,
Sept. 26, Nov. 4.
FIELDS, JIM — 1875, November 2, 17.
FISHER, FISHER'S PLACE — 1875,
November 10, 16, 17.
FISHER, P. H. — 1875, July 30.
FISHER, SAM — 1875, April 3, 8.
FLAGOTHIER, (FRENCHMAN) — 1875,
December 31.
FOGHSOON, G. D. — 1875, January 1.
FORSYTHE, JEROME — 1875, February 23, May 14.
FOUCKS, ED — 1875 (Following) February 1.
FRANKLIN, (OUTLAW) — 1875 (Following)
February 1.
GALLATIN, E. L. — 1875, January 1.
GARNETT, WILLIAM — 1875 (Following)
May 8.
GARNIER, BAPTISTE (LITTLE BAT) — 1873,
(Following) May 12; 1875, May 2, July 19,
Dec. 3 to 22.
GEORGE, M. B. — 1873, April 6.
GIBSON, DR. — 1875, September 22.
GOODWIN, OLIVER P. — 1875 (Following)
February 1.
GRANT, GENERAL — 1873, April 29; 1875,
(Following) May 8.
GRIFFIN — 1875, June 28, August 11, November 18.
GRIFFITS, DAN — 1875, (Following) February 1.
GROVES, SAM D. — 1875, Jan. 1, 27, 30, April 1,
July 21, Aug. 1, Oct. 5, Nov. 29.
GUITERMAN — 1875, May 2, 20.
HALL, CHAS. — 1875, January 1.
HALL, JOHN — 1875, March 27.
HALL, MRS. — 1875, April 6.
HAMMOND, SURVEYOR — 1875, July 22.

- HARNY, GENERAL — 1873, April 29.
HARRIS, JIM — 1875, Febr. 5, April 15, June 14,
Sept. 1.
HARRIS, MRS. — 1875, December 29.
HARTSUFF, DR. — 1875, May 12.
HARWOOD, JIM — 1875, Jan. 28, 30, Febr. 4, 11,
Sept. 18.
HASS, (HAAS) H. — 1875, Jan. 1, Febr. 4, Mar. 21,
April 15, Sept. 5.
HATHAWAY, W. E. — 1875, Jan. 27, April 19,
June 2, Oct. 15, 21, Nov. 10, Dec. 14.
HEATH, GEORGE — 1875, July 27.
HEATH, JIM — 1875, Sept. 11, Oct. 5.
HECHT, C. — 1873, March 30.
HELLMAN, H. or B. — 1875, Jan. 1, April 1.
HENRY, CAPT. — 1875, May 6.
HENRY, TOM — 1875, Dec. 16.
HOLBLUM, CORLETTE — 1875, July 27.
HOPE, JOHN — 1875, Jan. 27, July 30.
HOUSMAN, HENRY — 1875, Jan. 1.
HOWARD, E. A. — 1875, (Following) May 8.
HUNTER & ABBOTT — 1875, Oct. 14.
HUNTER, COLIN — 1875, June 26, Aug. 23,
Sept. 12, Dec. 12.
HUNTER, JOHN — 1875, (Following) Feb. 1.
HUNTON, JAMES — 1875, Jan. 1, Feb. 19, 22,
April 22, Oct. 9.
HUNTON, THOMAS — 1875, Jan. 1, April 9,
Aug. 22, 24.
IRON HORSE — 1875, (Following) May 8.
IRON SHELL — 1875 (Following) May 8.
IRVIN, MAJ. — 1875, Aug. 12.
JOHNSON, HORSE SHOE — 1875, May 9, 14,
June 3, July 28, Aug. 22.
JOHNSON & WALKER — 1875, May 15, Oct. 5,
Nov. 28.
JONES, W. R. — 1875, Jan. 1.
JORDAN — 1875, Sept. 14, Oct. 1, 19, 25, 31,
Nov. 7.
JUSTY, L. P. — 1875, Jan. 30, Febr. 14, April 2.

- KELLY, HIRAM B. (HI) — 1873, Apr. 5, May 10;
1875, Febr. 3, March 31, Aug. 31, Sept. 7.
- KENT, T. A. — 1875, Jan. 1, July 20, Oct. 11,
Nov. 30.
- KIPP, N. — 1875, April 1.
- KIRKLAND (PHOTOGRAPHER) — 1873,
(Following) May 12.
- KUYKENDALL, W. L. — 1873, March 29;
1875, Aug. 31.
- LADEAU, ANTOINE — 1875, (Following) Febr. 1.
- LADEAU, BAPTISTE. — 1875, Febr. 1.
- LALLEE — 1873, (Following) May 12; 1875,
Febr. 28, April 3, 27, July 18, Sept. 7, 25,
Oct. 4, Nov. 25.
- LAJUENESSE, MICHELL — 1873, (Following)
May 12.
- LANE, JIM — 1875, April 28.
- LAUBENFELTZ, MAJ. — 1875, Febr. 12.
- LEIGHTON, AL — 1875, Febr. 6.
- LITTLE BAT (BAPTISTE GARNIER) — 1875,
May 2, July 19, Dec. 3 to 22.
- LITTLE WOUND — 1875, (Following) May 8.
- LOAB, LOUIS — 1875, May 7.
- LOGAN, EARNEST — 1875, (Following) Oct. 31.
- LONE HORN — 1875 (Following) May 8.
- LONG, AUSTIN — 1875, Dec. 23, 31.
- LONG, JOHN — 1875, Dec. 31.
- LORD, D. K. (DAVE) — 1875, Aug. 6, Oct. 20, 31.
- LOWRY, JOHN — 1875, (Following) February 1.
- LUHN, CAPT. G. L. — 1875, Jan. 28, Febr. 28,
April 1, Aug. 16, Oct. 2, Dec. 15, 31.
- MALON — 1875, Aug. 12.
- MARKS, JOSEPH — 1873, April 30.
- MARKS & MEYERS — 1875, January 1.
- MARRIVALLE, FRANK — 1875, June 26.
- MARSH, WILLIAM — 1875, December 31.
- MARTIN, (BLACKSMITH) — 1875, July 1, Oct. 2.
- MARY — 1873, (Following) May 12; 1875, Nov. 25.
- MASON, COL. JOHN S. — 1875, March 1,
April 4, Aug. 16, Oct. 12, Dec. 31.
- MASON, GEN. — 1875, February 20.

- McARTHUR — 1875, August 11.
McCARTHY, J. — 1875, March 16.
McCLOSKY, JAMES — 1875, (Following)
February 1.
McMILLAN, GEORGE — 1875, May 20, Oct. 19,
Nov. 11.
MERRIT, COL. — 1875, (Following) Dec. 3.
MILLER, DAVE — 1873, April 6, 9; 1875,
January 1.
MILLS, B. B. (Estate) — 1875, January 1.
MILLS, DICK — 1875, February 5.
MINCER (MINSER), JOHN — 1875, June 19.
July 31.
MINUSE — 1875, November 17.
MISSOURI JIM — 1875, Febr. 2, 20, Nov. 4, 13.
MIX, CAPT. — 1875, March 23, Sept. 7, Oct. 6, 22.
MOORE, COL. — 1875, July 14.
MOORE, (QUARTERMASTER) — 1873, April 8.
MOORE, JACK — 1875, (Following) Nov. 13.
MORRIS, JOE — 1875, May 30.
MORSE, GERT — 1875, Aug. 21.
MOUSEAU, M. A. — 1875, Dec. 3.
MUMIN, L. — 1875, January 1.
MURPHY — 1875, Oct. 21.
NAGLE, E. — 1875, Jan. 1, Febr. 4, March 31.
NO FLESH — 1875, (Following) May 8.
NORTH, FRANK — 1875, March 26.
NUCKOLLS, S. F. — 1875, January 1.
NUMPA (NAMPA) — 1875, April 21.
O'BRIEN, JACK — 1875, July 30.
OTTEN, JOHN — 1875, June 2.
OWENS, JOHN — 1873, April 3; 1875, Febr. 22.
April 9, May 11.
OWENS, MRS. — 1875, April 20.
PAWNEE KILLER — 1875, (Following) May 8.
PELTON, CLARK — 1875 (Following) Febr. 1.
PERRY, GEN. — 1873, April 8.
PERSIMMON BILL — 1875, Dec. 2.
PETERS — 1875, March 25.
PHARRIS, JORDAN — 1875, August 12.

- PHILLIPS, F. M. (BUTCHER) — 1875, Jan. 1, 2,
Febr. 22, March 1, April 20, May 23, Nov. 28.
- PHILLIPS, JOHN (PORTUGEE) — 1875, Jan. 1,
Febr. 6, 22, May 20, Sept. 18.
- PINISTON & MILLER — 1873, April 12.
- POST, M. E. — 1875, January 1.
- POURIER, BAPTISTE (BIG BAT) — 1875,
Jan. 1, July 30, Dec. 3.
- POWELL, DR. — 1875, Aug. 25, Dec. 29.
- POWELL, GEORGE — 1875, Jan. 19, 30, Febr. 19,
April 1, May 20, July 30, Aug. 10,
Oct. 2, 25, 26, 29, 30, 31, Nov. 15, 17.
- POWELL, JIM — 1875, April 15.
- PRICE, LT. — 1875, Febr. 13.
- PYE, WILLIAM — 1875, March 25, Nov. 27.
- REAGON, DENNY — 1873, April 6.
- RED CLOUD, CHIEF — 1875, (Following) May 8.
- REED, HARRY — 1875, February 4.
- RICHARDS, CHARLEY — 1875, (Following)
Febr. 1.
- RICHARD (RESHAW), JOHN — 1875, Dec. 3.
- RICHARDSON, WARREN — 1875, (Following)
Oct. 31.
- ROBINSON, BILL — 1875, Dec. 7, 17.
- ROBINSON, LT. — 1875, Aug. 5.
- ROE, WM. — 1875, Nov. 16.
- RUSSELL — 1875, May 30.
- SANDERS, JIM — 1875, Nov. 13.
- SAVILLE, J. J. — 1875, July 22, (Following) May 8.
- SCHADEL, MRS. JOHN — 1875 (Following) Oct. 31.
- SCHWARTZ (SWARTZ), FRED — 1875, Jan. 1,
March 21.
- SCHWEIGART — 1875, Jan. 1.
- SECHLER, JOHN — 1873, March 30.
- SEMINOLE, NOEL — 1875, Aug. 1, Sept. 19,
Nov. 16.
- SHOULDER, CHIEF — 1875, (Following) May 8.
- SHUTZ, J. A. — 1875, Febr. 4.
- SLEEPER, DANIEL — 1875, Dec. 31.

- SMITH, COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
— 1875, (Following) May 8.
- SMITH, ED. J. — 1875, Jan. 1, July 30, Oct. 30, 31.
- SMITH, PETER — 1875, Jan. 1.
- SNYDER — 1875, May 9.
- SPAULDING, CAPT. — 1875, April 22, Oct. 22.
- SPOTTED TAIL — 1875, (Following) May 8.
- STAGNER, SPEED — 1875, April 17, Aug. 7,
Nov. 7, Dec. 29, 31.
- STAUNTON, COL. (PAYMASTER) — 1875,
March 12, July 20, Nov. 8.
- STEELE, LT. — 1875, Febr. 25.
- STEPHENS & WILCOX — 1875, Jan. 1, Febr. 28.
- STOVER — 1875, April 21.
- STREET, TOM — 1875, July 27.
- STUART — 1875, Dec. 30, 31.
- SULLIVAN, PAT — 1875, Dec. 16.
- SWAN — 1875, Oct. 11.
- TABEAUX, ANDY — 1875, Febr. 3.
- TAYLOR, MARY B. — (Following) May 12, 1873.
- TAYLOR, WM. H. — (Following) May 12, 1873.
- THIGH, CHIEF — 1875, (Following) May 8.
- THOMPSON, "BUD" — 1875, (Following) Febr. 1.
- THOMPSON, CHAS. — 1875, Apr. 22, July 30.
- THOMPSON, G. E. — 1875, January 1.
- TILLOTSON, E. — 1875, Jan. 1, 22, Febr. 28,
April 30, Dec. 9, 15, 16.
- TITUS, DAN — 1873, April 4; 1875, April 20.
- TRABING, CHAS. (BROS.) — 1873, March 29;
1875, Aug. 7, Oct. 14, Nov. 5.
- TRACY & WHITNEY — 1875, Jan. 1.
- TRAIL LANCE — 1875 (Following) May 8.
- TREMONT HOUSE (D. C.) — 1875, (Following)
May 8.
- TRENHOLM, VIRGINIA COLE — (Following)
Nov. 13, 1875.
- TRUE, LT. — 1875, Jan. 20, April 4.
- VAN VLIET, COL. — 1875, March 10, Sept. 26,
Oct. 22, 26, 28, Nov. 7, Dec. 30.
- WALKER — 1875, Dec. 30, 31.
- WALPOLE, ROBERT — 1875, July 17, Dec. 29.

- WARD, W. M. — 1875, January 1, April 18,
July 21, Oct. 19.
- WASHINGTON HOUSE (D. C.) — 1875,
(Following) May 8.
- WASHINGTON (D. C.) STAR — 1875,
(Following) May 8.
- WHALEN — 1875, Febr. 4.
- WHIPPLE, T. C. — 1875, Jan. 1.
- WHITCOMB, ELIAS W. — 1875, April 21, July 19,
Oct. 7, 8, Dec. 3.
- WHITE EYES — 1875, (Following) May 8.
- WHITE, INDIAN SUPT. — 1873, March 26.
- WHITE, QUAKER — 1873, March 29.
- WHITEHEAD — 1875, Aug. 11.
- WHITESIDE, HUGH — 1875, Febr. 1.
- WHITE THUNDER — 1875, (Following) May 8.
- WHITMAN, L.T. — 1875, March 26.
- WHITNEY, WILSON — 1875, Sept. 5.
- WILLIAMS, "CY" — 1875, Febr. 1.
- WILLIAMS, JACK — 1875, July 30.
- WILLIAMS, NATH — 1875, Jan. 19, 30, March 11,
July 15, Aug. 12, Oct. 22, Nov. 4, 5, 10, 20,
Dec. 20, 22.
- WILSON, P. L. — 1875, Jan. 1.
- WOLFJEN (WULFJEN) — 1875, Dec. 2.
- YATES, FRANK — 1873, April 6; 1875, March 25,
July 22.
- YOUNG, SAM — 1875, Jan. 1.

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TABLES OF DISTANCES

PREPARED BY L. C. BISHOP,
WYOMING STATE ENGINEER

FROM HUNTON RANCH TO FORT FETTERMAN
(Via Cut-Off Route)

From Itineraries of Routes, Department of the Platte,
U. S. Army, 1882

<i>Hunton Ranch to:</i>	MILES	
Chugwater Creek	4.84	
Stream 10' x 6". Water, grass, wood.		
Rd. along cr. to next crossing.		
Chugwater Creek	7.52	12.36
Stream 10' x 6". Water, grass, wood.		
Laramie Bridge	4.36	16.72
Water, grass, wood, good and plenty.		
Laramie River	2.57	19.29
Follow river from bridge.		
Big Cottonwood Cr.	11.52	30.81
Stream 8' x 1'. Crossing and water good. Wood plenty, grass fair.		
Junction	0.51	31.32
Rd. to Bull's Bend, N.P.R. cr. Rd. Ft. Laramie via Warm Springs to Lar. P.		
Horseshoe Cr.	12.93	44.25
Stream 18' x 8" crossing, water, grass and wood good.		
*Junction	12.24	56.49
On LaBonte Hill with rd. to Ft. Laramie (Mkr.).		
LaBonte Creek	6.49	63.98
Stream 30' x 8", crossing and water good, wood plenty, grass fair.		
Junction	0.37	63.35
Rd. to Ft. Fetterman wood res. 15 mi. up creek.		

Wagon Hound Cr.	3.83	67.18
Water good, wood plenty, grass fair.		
Bed Tick Creek	5.75	72.93
Spring $\frac{1}{4}$ mi. right of road.		
Ft. Fetterman	10.71	83.64

FROM HUNTON RANCH TO FORT FETTERMAN

(Via Ft. Laramie and South Side of River)

<i>Hunton Ranch to:</i>	MILES	
Owens Ranch (Chug Springs)	4.80	11.88
Good water, poor grass and no wood.		
Eagles Nest (Ranch)	7.08	18.88
Water in well, no wood, poor grass.		
Ft. Laramie	15.18	34.06
Old Fort.		
Junction	1.02	35.08
Rd. to Cheyenne branches left.		
Warm Springs	13.08	48.16
Water plenty and good, poor grass, no wood.		
Junction	5.00	53.16
River br. of rd. to Ft. Laramie.		
Old rd. little used.		
Big Cottonwood Cr.	3.22	56.38
Stream sinks, water in pools, grass poor, wood plenty.		
Little Cottonwood Cr.	2.79	59.17
Stream sinks, water in pools, fair grass, little wood.		
Bulls Bend N.P.R.	7.02	66.19
Rd. nears River, good camp, Jct. with rd. to crossing of Big Cottonwood by Ft. Fetterman-Cheyenne Cut-off rd. 10 mi. to crossing.		
Twin Springs	1.46	67.65
Water good, little grass, no wood.		

DISTANCE TABLES

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Horseshoe Creek	4.52	72.17
Stream 15' x 1'. Water good, grass fair, wood plenty.		
Elkhorn Creek	9.47	81.64
Small springs, poor grass, no wood.		
Junction	6.45	88.09
Top of LaBonte Hill with rd. Cheyenne to Ft. Fetterman.		
Fetterman	27.15	115.24
(Mkr.) Use table above for detail from here.		
(115.24—Total distance this route)		

FROM HUNTON RANCH TO CHEYENNE

<i>Hunton Ranch to:</i>	MILES	
Kelley's Ranch	10.38	
Maxwell's Ranch	2.72	13.10
John (Portugee) Phillips Ranch	0.38	14.48
Telegraph office, good water and grass, wood scarce.		
Halls Ranch	9.84	24.32
Road to Bear Springs	1.53	25.85
Dist. 1.22 Mi.		
Road from Bear Springs	3.43	29.28
Bards Ranch	4.43	32.71
Horse Creek Ranch	2.92	35.63
Stream 7' x 6" good water and grass. Wood scarce.		
Terrys Ranch	2.31	37.94
Pole Creek Ranch	6.45	44.39
Stream 6' x 4"; grass.		
Davis Ranch	7.10	51.49
Cheyenne	9.81	61.30

FORT FETTERMAN TO MEDICINE BOW, WYO.

(From surveys of Captain W. S. Stanton,
Corps of Engineers)

<i>Ft. Fetterman to:</i>	MILES	
Crossing of LaPrelle Cr.	2.84	
Hunton's Ranch (Milk Ranch)	0.53	3.37
Lv. LaPrelle Cr.	6.07	9.44
Wood, water and grass; crossing of old California Road (Now called "Oregon" Trail)		
Junction	4.54	13.98
With road to Rock Creek.		
Enter "Canon"	10.01	23.99
Box Elder Creek	3.09	27.08
Good water, grass and wood.		
Ranch	10.42	37.50
Leave "Canon"	0.70	38.20
Summit of Divide	1.51	39.71
Altitude 7992 feet.		
Leave Laramie Hills	5.56	45.27
Enter Laramie Plains.		
Little Medicine Bow R.	2.93	48.20
Crossing bad; no wood, grass poor.		
Little Medicine Bow R.	10.09	58.29
Crossing.		
Little Medicine Bow R.	8.95	67.24
Road nears stream which lies $\frac{1}{2}$ mile or more on left of route.		
Lv. Little Med. Bow R.	3.30	70.54
Medicine Bow River	6.19	76.73
Crossing; no wood.		
Medicine Bow River	7.72	84.45
Crossing.		
Medicine Bow Station	0.95	85.40

In the first 45 miles from Fort Fetterman, the

road crosses the Laramie Hills, is very hilly, and the 14 miles lying in the canon are obstructed by snow and impracticable from November until May. Emerging from these hills, the route lies, for the remaining 40 miles, on the Laramie Plains.

FORT FETTERMAN TO ROCK CREEK STATION

U. P. R. R., Wyo.

(From surveys of Captain W. S. Stanton,
Corps of Engineers)

<i>Fort Fetterman to:</i>	MILES	
Hunton's Ranch	3.32	
LaPrelle Creek	6.09	9.41
Junction	4.55	13.96
With road to Medicine Bow.		
Small Creek	1.89	15.85
Crossing miry; water, wood and grass.		
Small Creek	2.85	18.70
Crossing good; water, wood and grass.		
Creek	6.08	24.78
Stream 9' x 6"; wood and grass.		
Creek	2.13	26.91
Water, wood and grass. For next 2¾ miles ascend very steep hill.		
Enter "Canon"	13.47	40.38
Near entrance, water, wood and grass.		
Road follows and repeatedly crosses, a small creek through the canon.		
Leave "Canon"	2.59	42.97
Ascent of very steep and bad hill.		
Summit	4.35	47.32
Altitude 7576 ft.: road follows Antelope Valley until emerging from hills.		
Creek	1.27	48.59
Good water and grass; wood about 1 mile from road.		

Creek	5.87	54.46
Creek continues on left of route several miles, sinks; water in large pools and grass; no wood.		
Enter Laramie Plains	2.84	57.30
Rock Creek Station	26.20	83.50
Union Pacific Railroad.		

First for 57 miles the route crosses, and lies in, the Laramie Hills; thereafter on the Laramie Plains. Between LaPrelle and the Summit the road is generally hilly, two hills being very steep and bad; thence to Rock Creek it descends quite uniformly in grade and is generally smooth, firm and excellent.

FORT FETTERMAN TO FORT McKINNEY, WYO.

(From surveys of Captain W. S. Stanton,
Corps of Engineers)

<i>Fort Fetterman to:</i>	MILES	
LaPrelle Creek	0.44	
Crossing.		
North Platte River	1.11	1.55
Good ford.		
Sage Creek	9.06	10.61
Creek sinks, but affords brackish water in pools; grass fair, no wood; road follows near creek for next five miles.		
Sage Creek	5.27	15.88
Brown Springs	12.17	28.05
Water plenty but brackish; grass good; no wood.		
S. Fork S. Cheyenne R.	3.55	31.60
Water fails in summer; wood and fair grass.		
Humphreyville Creek	8.13	39.73
Water in pools abundant but brackish; fair grass; no wood.		

DISTANCE TABLES

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Mid. Fk. S. Cheyenne R.	4.66	44.39
Water by digging; grass poor; no wood.		
Antelope Springs	5.88	50.27
Brackish water in pools; wood and poor grass.		
N. Fork S. Cheyenne R.	1.83	52.10
Sinks in summer; water in pools, grass good; wood $\frac{1}{2}$ mile below crossing.		
Dry Fork of Powder R.	21.27	73.37
Buffalo Springs; stream sinks; brackish water in pools; wood and grass, junction with road to Deadwood, Dak.		
Henry's Ranch	11.38	84.75
Old Fort McKinney	6.42	91.17
Road follows Dry Fork from Buffalo Springs and crosses Powder R. at Fort.		
Crazy Woman's Fork	27.10	118.27
Junction	17.75	136.02
With road to Old Fort Phil. Kearney.		
Fort McKinney	6.75	142.77
Country rolling and barren; road sandy along Sage Creek. otherwise generally good.		

FORT FETTERMAN TO FORT LARAMIE ,WYO.

(Via North-East Bank of North Platte River.)

(From surveys of Captain W. S. Stanton,

Corps of Engineers)

Fort Fetterman to:	MILES	
North Platte River Crossing.	0.59	
Enter Bad Lands	3.82	4.41
Leave Bad Lands	5.94	10.35
Road nears the river	11.04	21.39
Grass and wood about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles further, on river bank, near road.		

Bridger's Ferry	6.81	28.2
About 1½ miles from road.		
Road nears the river	2.25	30.4
Grass and wood abundant until road leaves the river.		
Road leaves river	3.37	33.8
Wood and grass abundant.		
Swale	12.02	45.8
Miry, good grass, water by digging, no wood.		
Brook	8.05	53.8
Good water, grass and wood.		
Road nears the river	9.77	63.6
North Platte River	1.57	65.2
Good camp on river bank; wood and grass abundant.		
Road nears the river	12.30	77.5
Road lies near the river to the bridge.		
Breckenridge's Ranch	5.36	82.8
Platte River Bridge	3.02	85.9
Iron Bridge.		
Fort Laramie	1.41	87.3
Country partly hilly and broken, but generally rolling. Road in places hilly, in others sandy; otherwise good.		

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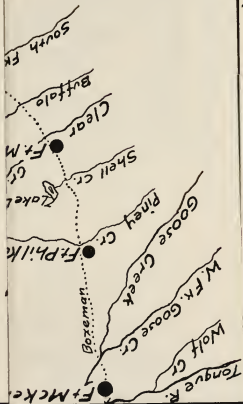
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THE MAPS and Tables of Distances in this volume were prepared by Wyoming State Engineer L. C. Bishop who has personally traveled nearly every foot of the state's dimming pioneer roads and is an authority on the subject.

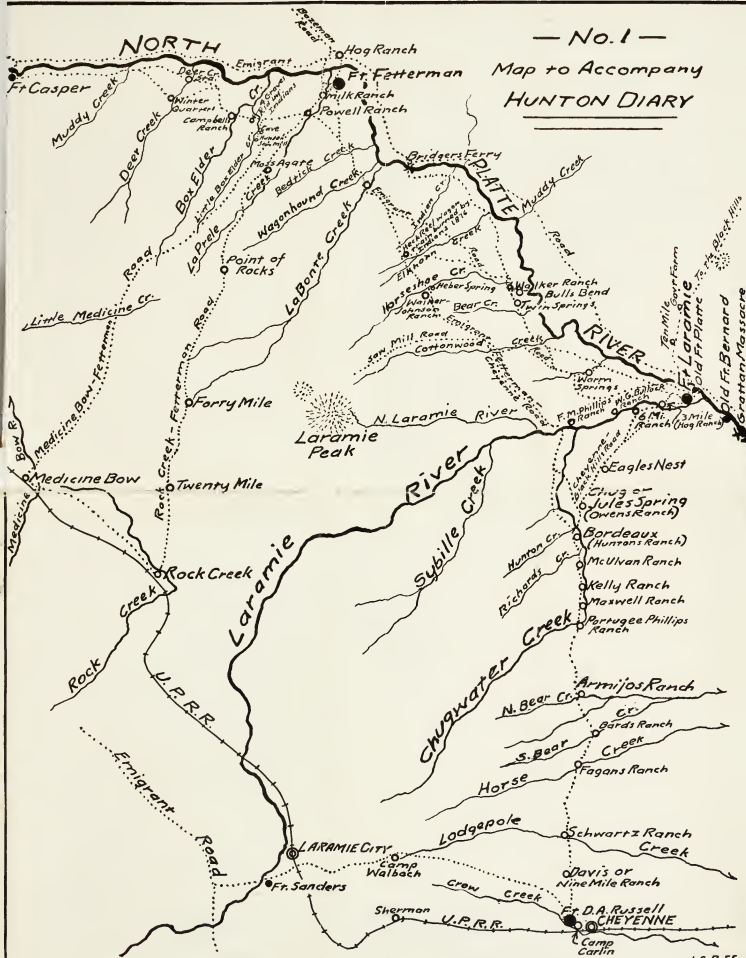
They show the regions of the Laramie, Platte and Powder Rivers from Cheyenne north to Fort McKenzie, near the present city of Sheridan, as they were seventy-five years ago — the roads, the forts and many of the earliest ranches and stage stations.

Mr. Bishop's father, S. A. Bishop, and his uncle, Alfred, were among those intrepid men who urged the slow-plodding bull trains with their lurching wagons of precious freight over these same lonely and often perilous trails three quarters of a century ago.

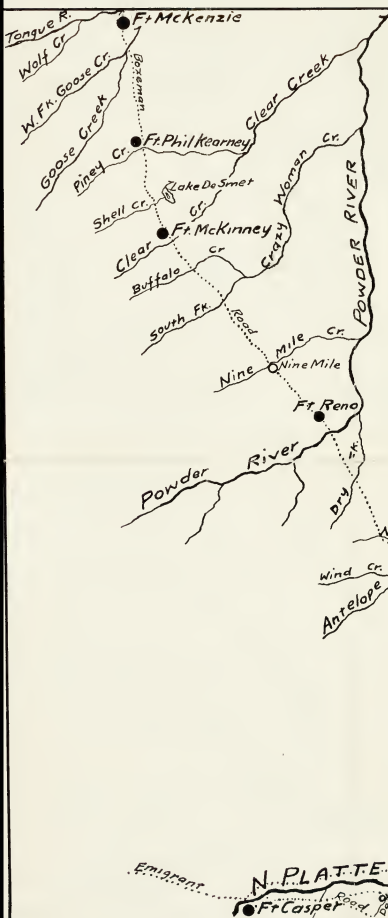
The relative positions of today's cities, towns and highways which are not shown may be easily determined by comparison with any modern road map.



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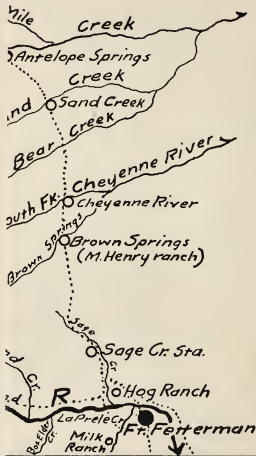


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— No. 2 —
Map to Accompany
HUNTON DIARY

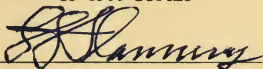
Pumpkin Buttes



THIS IS NUMBER

289

OF 1500 COPIES

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "S. Hanning", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized with large, flowing loops and a long, sweeping tail that extends to the right.

Fort Laramie, Wyoming.

James H. H.

Vol. 2

JOHN HUNTON'S DIARY

* * *

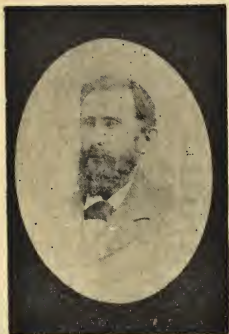
1876 - '77

by
L. G. (Pat) Flannery

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L. G. FLANNERY

Printed by Guide-Review
Lingle, Wyoming



JOHN HUNTON

(1839-1928)

Virginia Gentleman

Wyoming Pioneer

* * *

THIS WORK is presented in the hope that it will help preserve a true picture of day by day living on the frontier and other accurate details of Wyoming's early history and development.

INTRODUCTION—An After Word.

*PART ONE**1876*

JANUARY:

- A Fancy Note—Interest 2% Per Month.
Going Wages—Five to Forty Cents per Hour, Fifty Cents to \$4.00 a Day.
Population of Wyoming 9,118; of New York City 926,341.
Long Bill Dailey's Brother Ran the Rocky Mountain News.
Congressman Steel Pressured for Platte Bridge Appropriation.
Gold Rush to Black Hills Becomes Frenzy—Indian Resentment at Invasion Mounts.
Sports Event at Fort Fetterman—Baiting Captured Coyote with Dogs.
Fifty Tons Hay at \$45 per Ton.
Capt. Laubenfels Dismissed—Lts. Luhn, Quinn and Babbs Promoted To Captains.
Stage Line Planned to Black Hills. Hundreds Outfit for Prospecting. Cheyenne Hotels Overflow—Guests Sleep on Floors and Billiard Tables.
Sitting Bull Takes to War Path—Miners Clamor for Extermination of the Sioux.
Nath Williams Abandons Bull Train on La-Bonte.
Hauphoff's Hotel at Fort Laramie.

FEBRUARY:

- Mr. Swan Overnight Guest at Bordeaux.
Jim Hunton Takes Five-Wagon Hay Train
to Fort Fetterman.
First Stage Leaves Cheyenne for Black Hills
—a Five Day Trip.
Colin Hunter Supplies Troops with Sixty
Beeves—Price Going Up.
War With The Sioux Called Inevitable—
Newspapers Beat Drums for Action.
Steady Stream of Miners Pass Bordeaux
Daily, Headed for "The Hills".
Indians Raiding on Cottonwood Creek.
General Crook Readies Expedition at Fort
Fetterman—Foresees "Unusually Ardu-
ous" Campaign with Green Troops.
Cavalry Moving North Exhausts Bordeaux
Hay Supply.

MARCH:

- Hunton Dreams of Fighting and Killing on
Eve of War.
Crook's Expedition Leaves Fort Fetterman
on Disasterous Campaign.
Black Hills' Gold Brings Cheyenne Business
Boom.
Pioneer Road Map and Transportation Costs
to "The Hills".
Business Also Booming at Bordeaux.
Persimmon Bill Chambers Kills Sgt. Sulli-
van.
Ox Train Snowed In On Elk Horn—Short
of Rations—Butcher Johnson & Walker
Beef.

Custer City Gets Steam Saw Mill by Bull Train, Has Forty Houses.

New Iron Bridge Across Platte at Fort Laramie Opened to Travel.

Hay Soars to \$60 Ton, Corn \$3.50 per Hundred.

Pat Corbliss Coughs Up Stolen Money When Hanged a Little.

George McMillan Loses His Watch at Cards.

Portugee Phillips Has Popular Road Ranch on the Chug.

Crazy Horse Wins First Round—Sends Crook Reeling Back to Fetterman—Officers Look for Scapegoats—Soldiers Get Drunk.

APRIL:

Heck Reel's Bull Train Snowed in on Horse Shoe.

Heavy Traffic Through Bordeaux to Black Hills.

George Cross Remembered Lallee as Good Cook, Fine Looking Woman Who Spoke French Well, Thought Little Mary Was Her Daughter.

Bordeaux Road House Gets a New Dirt Roof. Stuttering Brown, Stage Line Superintendent, Killed Near Hat Creek Station.

George Powell Buys Silver Watch McMillan Lost at Cards for \$75.

MAY:

Malcomb Campbell Leaves Ft. Fetterman Hospital.

Hunton & Kipp Low Bidders on Fetterman Beef—10c Hoof, 11c Block.

James Hunton Killed by Indians—"Buried Jim"—and a Brother's Blind Rage.

Panic Among Travelers to Black Hills as Indian Killings Mount.

Sioux Tribes Leave the Reservations—Join for Battle in the North.

Stage Driver Clark Killed in Ambush Set for General Crook.

War Correspondents Gather and Organize in Cheyenne.

A Poor Time to Lose Your Gun.

Col. Royal's Command Marches to Join Crook—Camps at Bordeaux.

Ferrying Army Across the Swollen Platte No Easy Task.

Indians Thick Between Ft. Laramie and the Chug—Settlers Appeal for Arms—Territorial Arsenal Depleted.

Last Minute Efforts for Peace Fail.

Crook's Second Expedition Leaves Ft. Fetterman 2:00 P.M. May 29.

JUNE:

Prices Up—War Time Bids on Hay and Wood for Fetterman.

Icicles Ten Inches Long on June 2.

Couriers Ask \$400 to Take Dispatches to Crook.

Did You Ever Read, "How He Won Her"? Fifth Cavalry Coming To Support Crook's Rear.

Speed Stagner Badly Wounded—He Was a
Three-Squaw Man.
General Terry Has Fight With Sioux—
Heavy Losses on Both Sides.
Colin Hunter Branded His Cattle "75".
Fatty Stuart's Tragic End—and Why His
Uncle Left the Country.
Indian Wireless Denies Rumor Big Bat Pour-
rier Killed.
Calamity Jane—Her Friendship, If Any,
With Wild Bill.
How Wild Bill Hickok Lost His Cane.
Stage Line Horses Stabled at Bordeaux.
Indians Or No—The Roundup Must Go.
Crook And Crazy Horse Battle to a Draw
On Rosebud.

JULY:

The Old Bullock Ranch, First Building
Erected in 1871. Roof Plank Sawed at
Fort Laramie in 1855.
Buys Cows From Johnson & Walker at \$20
per Head.
The Legend of LaRamie, After Whom All
Things Called Laramie Were Named.
Custer Massacre Report Reaches Ft. Fetter-
man—Scout Louis Richard Carries the
News to Crook.
Jim Harwood and Ed Seminole Also Car-
ry Dispatches.
Speed Stagner, Suffering From Wound, At-
tended by Army Surgeons.
New Slaughter House for Ft. Fetterman.

John Boyd and William Aug Almost Lost Their Scalps.

Ed Seminole Brings Word "Crook Laying on Goose Creek Inactive".

The Hazards of Spying on the Sioux.

In Some Ways a Soldier's Life Does Not Change.

Sioux Fires Scorch the Earth of Northern Wyoming.

Bill Cody Kills Two Indians—One of Them May Have Been Yellow Hand.

Delivers Beeves to General Merritt, Marching to Reinforce Crook.

Indian War Makes Good Business for Army Contractors.

AUGUST:

"Captain Jack", Newspaper Man, Accompanies Courier Graves to Crook.

Wagon Master Throstle Killed When Indians Attack Heck Reel's Bull Train.

George Powell Disbands Hay Party—Too Many Indians.

Daily Pursues Indians on the Platte, Kills and Captures Ponies.

Red Men Attack Custer City Mail—Steal Horses on Horse Shoe, Cottonwood and at Chug Springs.

One Hundred Indians Reported Moving on Chugwater from Agencies.

Borrows Gun, Starts to Chug with Burkett, Mills and Sam Groves.

George Powell Starts Haying at Bridger's Ferry with Military Escort.

Wild Bill Hickok Killed at Deadwood.
Indians Chase Soldiers Into Swan's Ranch.
Bull Trains Stolidly Continue Hauling Hay
for Military.

Roundup Starts on Box Elder, Haying on
the Bullock Ranch.

Five Calico Dresses and Hose for Lallee.

Bull Calves Bring Forty Dollars.

Surveyor Blackstone Paid \$50 for Laying
Out Ditches on Bullock and Sam Grove's
Ranches.

Hi Kelly's Child Dies—The Squaws Gather
to Mourn.

Stuart & Morris Horses Stolen by Indian
Raiders.

Traffic Flow To and From Black Hills Con-
tinues.

SEPTEMBER:

Inquires About College Script Land and
Stage Company Grants.

American Horse Kills "Sioux Jim".

Recruits Through Bordeaux for 4th Cavalry
and 9th Infantry.

Indians Steal Tom Haynes' Mules.

Buys Hundred Picked Steers from Hi Kelly
at \$30 per Head, 31 Cows at \$20.

Beef Bids for Crook's Camp on Goose Creek
13.9c Pound on Block, 10c on Hoof.

General Sheridan Through Bordeaux to Ft.
Laramie.

Driving Beef Herd from Bordeaux to Fetter-
man with Military Escort.

Hunton's Vented Brand Read "S O L D".
'Telegraph Wires Broken on LaBonte Hill by
Indians, Leave Large Trail.
Williams and Soldiers Catch Three Alleged
Horse Thieves.
Speed Stagner Recovering from Wounds.
Loans Milk Cow to Ft. Fetterman Hospital
—Moves Other Cattle from Milk Ranch
to Box Elder.
Will Haul Half Million Pounds Supplies to
Reactivated Fort Reno.

OCTOBER:

Sheriff Bramer Takes Horse Thieves to Car-
bon.
John Boyd Works Four Years, Average
Wage \$45 per Month.
George Powell's Hay Crew Attacked by In-
dians—John Ottens Wounded.
Rhodes Killed on Horse Shoe.
Miss Harrington a Suicide—No Reason Giv-
en—Buried at Ft. Fetterman.
Male Nurse Hired for Ottens, Condition
Worse.
Indians Attack Bull Train Near Elkhorn—
Wagon Master Wounded.
John Ottens Dies of Wounds—Buried at Ft.
Fetterman.
Lt. Robinson Court-Martialed.
Indians Again Steal Horses at Bordeaux—
Kill One Soldier, Wound Two.
Capt. Quinn and Bull Train Return from
Ft. Reno—Report Buffalo and Much In-
dian Sign on Powder River.

NOVEMBER:

- Lost—Saddle Pockets. Return to John Hun-
ton.
Crook's Troops Leave Ft. Laramie for Ft.
Fetterman.
One Hundred Beeves Bring \$7000.
Scouts Big Bat and Louis Richard (Reshaw)
at Milk Ranch on LaPrele.
Third Expedition Leaves Ft. Fetterman on
Final and Victorious Campaign Against
the Northern Tribes.
One Version of How Goshen Hole Got Its
Name.
Jules Ecoffey Killed by Meyers and Dunc
Blackburn at Six Mile. Adolph Cuny
Takes Body to Cheyenne.
Soldiers Eat a Lot of Beef.

DECEMBER:

- Garsy Brown Shoots Joe Walters at Cuny's
Ranch.
Trailing Beef—Bordeaux to Fetterman—in
Six Days.
Crook's Wounded Arrive at Ft. Fetterman.
Hay Brings \$37 per Ton.
Expedition on Belle Fourche Starting Back
to Fetterman.
Hauling Coal from Hathaway's Pit to Ft.
Fetterman.
Nath Williams Has \$500 Less Than Noth-
ing Coming to Him.
All Night Session at Cards.

- Closes Milk Ranch for Winter—Blacksmith
Travers Left in Charge.
Applies for Appointment as Sutler at Ft.
Reno.
Christmas Eve at Johnson & Walkers—Gets
Suit from Tillotson's Trunk.
Two Men Killed on Indian Creek.
Jack Russell and Texas Jim Spot Red Raid-
ers on Horse Shoe.
Bill Dillon Loses His Scalp.
Many Black Hillers Celebrate New Years
Eve at Bordeaux.

P A R T T W O

1 8 7 7

JANUARY:

General Crook, Back from the Wars, Passes to Cheyenne.

Borrows Hay Press from Senator Kendrick's Future Father-in-law.

Frank Gruard—The Sandwich Islander Who Passed for a Sioux.

Horse Herd On Spear Fish Stolen by Indians.

Deputy Marshal Fisher After Horse Thief.

Heavy Travel and Troop Movement's Through Bordeaux—Cross Roads of the West.

A Stabbing Affray at John Owens' Ranch.

Many Chinamen Traveling to the Black Hills.

Seventeen Passengers on Coach, Including Deputy Fisher and Prisoner McGinnis.

Luke Voorhees, Pioneer Stage Operator, Whose "Treasure Coach" Carried Fortunes in Gold.

Circulating Petition for Post Office at Bordeaux.

Frank Ecoffey on Cheyenne Coach With Two Prisoners.

Indians Steal Portugee Phillips' and Hi Kelly's Horses, Kill Trapper on Cottonwood.

Charly Clay Wintering His Work Cattle on Running Water.

Nagle & Swan Offer \$200 Reward for Stage Robbers, Dead or Alive.

Last Indian Depredations in the Laramie Region.

Hay Price at Ft. Fetterman \$60 Ton.

Daily Coach Planned to the "Hills"—More Stable Room Needed at Bordeaux.

FEBRUARY:

Builds House on Tom Hunton's Homestead.

Baling Hay on the Nick Janis' Ranch.

General Miles Wins Victory on the Yellowstone.

Small Pox at Fort Laramie—One Man Dies.

Alvah W. Ayers Finds Charly Clay's Work Cattle.

John LaMotte Gets \$40 a Month Job.

Another Prophetic Dream—Jealous Women Fighting Over Him.

Domestic Crisis—Goes Buggy Riding with "E", Lallee Leaves Him.

Hay Bales Weighed 200 Pounds—Eight-Wagon Bull Train Hauls 34 Tons to Ft. Fetterman.

Indian Scare at Fagan's Ranch.

Hay for Luke Voorhees' Stage Line at \$32 Ton.

Thirteen Dollar Hay Brings \$60 Baled and Delivered at Ft. Fetterman.

Britisher Badgered at Hay Camp.

Train Attacked on Black Hills Road, One Killed—Ft. Laramie Troops to Rescue.

Horse Stealing Along the Laramie and Platte—Other Indian Depredations.

Confides His Trouble With Lallee to Her Brother, Little Bat.

Tells Squaw to Go—Suffers Pangs of Regret—Would Rather Have Seen Her Die.
W. G. Bullock Disapproved for Post Trader Appointment—His Squaw Record Hurt Him.

Velvet Hat, Brass Heeled Shoes and Merino Hose for Some Lady.

MARCH:

Transportation Magnates of Pre-Railroad Days.

William Pye Steals Jim's Money and Flees
—The Boys Bring Him Back.

Eternal Triangle—Hears Lallee Has Been
"Toying" with Joe Morris.

Squaw Camp on the Laramie.

Sends Lallee to Reservation—But She Does
Not Stay There.

Building New Stage Station at Bordeaux.

F. M. Phillips Throws His Squaw Away
but Keeps the Children.

Anguish for Mothers When Red and White
Mates Parted.

Buying Cattle for Indian Beef.

Eula Wulfjen (Mrs. John B. Kendrick)
Traveled the Texas Trail in '73 at Age
of Fifteen Months.

Eighteen Below Zero in March.

Heavy Stage Coach Travel Through Bordeaux to Black Hills.

Indians Surrendering Horses and Guns at
Red Cloud Agency.

General Crook Relaxes at Ft. Laramie.

Lallee Had a Sewing Machine.

Road Agents Did Not Molest the Lady.
Making Shoes for Work Cattle.
The Remarkable Johnny Owens—Twenty
Notches on His Gun.
Tom Hunton First Postmaster at Bordeaux.
McQuade Kills The Jacksons.

APRIL:

Lure of Black Hills' Gold Spreads Over the
Nation.
Johnny Slaughter, Stage Driver, Killed by
Road Agents.
Col. Carpenter Conducted Tours for Miners.
Hunton Brothers Qualify to Handle Mail.
John Boyd Builds Homestead House.
Indians Stealing Horses on Bear Creek.
D. H. Russell Buys a \$60 Bull.
An Irrigation System at Bordeaux.
Capt. Van Vliet's Stallion Brings \$150.
Small Pox Victims Left at Chugwater by
Army Train.
Cold, Wet Journey from Bordeaux to Ft.
Fetterman.
Capt. Pollock Survived the Frontier Wars to
Die in Fall Down Stairs.

MAY:

Crazy Horse Surrenders His Warriors but
Not His Spirit—Sought Death and Found
It.
John R. Smith Turns the Table—Shoots
Bandit Who Came to Rob Him.
Beef Bids for Forts Fetterman and Reno.

Andy Sullivan's Bones Found by Roundup Party—He Was Governor Simpson's Great Uncle.

Tom Hunton Sick, Treated by Doctor Passing to The Hills.

Bordeaux Irrigation System Completed.

James Monroe Helped Build Cow Hide Dam Across The Chug.

Chinamen Bring Laundry Service to Black Hills' Miners.

Roundup Crew Dissatisfied—Maybe the Cook Was on a Toot.

Posey Wilson Sues, Attaches Hay Money.

Billy Bacon and Jack Sanders (Saunders) Rubbed Each Other Out.

Little Bat Finds "Bob" Horse in Indian Hands.

Lallee, Old Squaw and Little Bat Visit Hi Kelly.

Political Plum—Sutlers and Post Traders Had Monopoly at Frontier Posts.

Horse Thieves Go Too Far, Steal Judge Hauphoff's Stock.

Lallee Again Sent to Agency—Again She Does Not Stay.

Andy Carr Recovers Some of His Horses from Indians.

John Owens Buys \$30 Bull Calf.

Thirty Dollars a Month Job for Newcomb.

JUNE:

Gathering Cattle With Lower Roundup from Sidney, Nebraska to Ft. Laramie.

The Janis Boys, William and Pete, Killed by Richard (Reshaw) Brothers in Christmas Brawl.

Awarded Contracts on Hay for Ft. Reno, Hay and Beef for Ft. Fetterman.

Charley Mathews Builds on Platte Hay Bottom Opposite Old Indian Agency.

Tax Collector Provines Makes His Rounds. Storm Washes Out Bridges on Chug and Hunton Creeks.

Did You Ever See a Perfect Rainbow in the Moonlight?

Lallee Leaves Again—Takes Bed and Clothing With Her.

The "S O" Brand Used on Wyoming's First Herd of Beef Cattle.

Agrees To Deliver All Hay Within Forty Mile Radius to Ft. Reno.

Three Stage Robberies in Week — Loot Totals \$20,000—and the Road Agents Also Had Their Little Joke.

Mrs. Bill Waln Was a Hardy Pioneer Mother.

JULY:

Extra Hay for Fort Reno at \$65 Ton.

Who Fenced in the Red Bluffs Hay Bottom?

Dave Cottier Gets Hay Hauling Job at Reno.

Herman Haas a Skilled Workman—Ox Yokes and Bows His Specialty.

Buys Colin Hunter's Bull Outfit—19 Yoke Cattle and 4 Wagons.

Old Mr. Clay, of Virginia, Visits W. G. Bullock.

Posey Ryan Sub-Contracts Ft. Reno Hay—
Had Stormy Life, Peaceful Death.
Directing Far-Flung Hay and Beef Operations from Sick Bed.
Medical Services Came High in 1877, Too.
Adolph Cuny Killed by Clark Pelton at Six Mile Ranch.
Gets Well Fast When Newcomb Starts Cooking.
Financed By First National Bank of Omaha.

AUGUST:

How Casper Got Her Start.
Moves Cattle Herd to Box Elder.
Asks Military Guard for Hay Crew, Request Denied.
Brown & Yates Teamster Killed, Wagon Master Wounded, by Indians.
Hunting Hay and Game Across Northern Half of Wyoming.
Little Bat Discovers New Hay Meadows Southeast of Lake DeSmet.
Relaxing at Fort Fetterman After Strenuous Journey.
Hears Report of Brigham Young's Death.
Wilderness Hay Party Buys Army Provisions.

SEPTEMBER:

Hunton Herd Established on Box Elder.
Stuart Moves His Cattle East.
Accidental Suicide at Ft. Fetterman Hog Ranch.

Maj. Woolcott's Cattle Destroy Hay at Mouth of Deer Creek.
Business and Pleasure Trip to Omaha and Chicago, with Gen. Crook for Traveling Companion.
Theatre Offerings—Booth in "Brutus" at McVickers: Barrett in "Richard the Third" at Hooleys.
Many New Things Seen at the Fair.
Carriage Tour of City—and an Eye Full of Chicago Night Life.
Union Pacific Train Robbed at Big Springs, Nebraska—Loot \$70,000 in Cash.
Swan Cattle Empire Getting a Start.
F. M. Phillips Weds Miss Miller, Opera Singer.
Governor Thayer's Clemency Sought for Dan Titus.
Hi Kelly Building New Brick House.
Indian Gathering at Big Bat Pourier's.
Smith Buys Kent's Cattle—\$20 for Cows, \$30 for Steers.
New Hay Press Costs \$840 at Chicago.
Omaha Bank Advances \$4765 on Voucher for 148 Tons Hay.

OCTOBER:

Cattle Drive from Bordeaux to Fetterman, George Drake in Charge, Billy Bacon and Wm. Hinson Helpers.
Hay Hands Dissatisfied—No Pay, Live on Rations Borrowed from Army.

Hay Contract Completed—Hunton Shells
Out \$4,000—Everybody Happy.
New Hay Press Arrives from Chicago—
Works Okay.
Another Trip to Omaha—Gets \$10,500
Advance on Hay Vouchers for \$12,000.
Buys Tombstone for Jim Hunton's Grave.
Contracts To Bridge Chugwater Creek for
\$350—Mr. Smith Hews the Timbers.
Brands Work Oxen "L D".

NOVEMBER:

How Babcock Happened to Take Up Stage
Robbing.
Little Bat Garnier Sells His Mules for \$375.
Lt. Chase Stops at Bordeaux with Captured
Road Agents—Collects \$400 Reward.
Five Hundred Dollar Check to Wm. J. Cave
Carefully Preserved.
Business and Banking Memoranda.
No Diary for December, 1877.

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* * *

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INTRODUCTION

An After Word

-or-

Bull Whacking on Rubber Tires

This is the summary of a trip over dim and long deserted trails from Cheyenne, Wyoming, north to the sites of ancient forts and stage stations that were once havens of safety for weary travelers and the rendezvous of pioneers—to places now almost lost to the sight and memory of men. That is why we call this "an after word" instead of the usual foreword with which books are launched.

Wyoming's energetic State Engineer L. C. Bishop has a passion for new information on old trails and almost forgotten historic sites which puts to shame a smoker's yearning for his cigarette or a drinker's thirst for his bottle. In mid-January, 1956, this urge sent Mr. Bishop bounding over the Wyoming winter landscape along bull-train and stage coach routes of eighty years ago. Snow and howling January winds added a touch of realism over much of the way. Albert Sims and Lyle Hildebrand, of Douglas, went along to open the barbed wire gates, of which there were probably not more than a thousand in all. The writer also went along.

* * *

The trip started from old Camp Carlin, which was located between Cheyenne and ad-

jacent Warren Air Base. From there the dim trail leads north across gently rolling prairie to the Old Davis or Nine Mile Ranch. Mr. Adamson, whose home is in that area directed us to the site of the old well and cellar dugouts which are about all that remain of that first stop on the long and lonely trail. A certain "Madame" Selig later took over and built a sporting house at Nine Mile Ranch which became a popular resort for soldiers, freighters and other local gentry. Nothing resembling that kind of sport around there today.

* * *

Another seven miles or so, always pushing northward except for detours around steep hills and badlands, brings you to Lodgepole Creek where the Fred Schwartz road ranch and stage station once offered hospitality to man and beast. Its buildings have vanished, but there along the creek are the willows and brush to which Mrs. Schwartz, heavy with child, fled for refuge with her three year-old daughter Minna when drink crazed cowboys wrecked the place and broke into the family living quarters searching for "women". Mrs. Schwartz lost her unborn baby that brutal night, but little Minna lived and grew to become a beautiful chorus girl in the original "Prince of Pilsen" cast and later married the famous newspaper columnist Franklin P. Adams,

* * *

By this time if the unfamiliar traveler is

not geographically confused by Wyoming's wide open spaces, he should be. But what Clark Bishop calls his "hillbilly instinct" and unerring eagle eye for grass covered ruts of the old trail carry you on north another eight or ten miles to Horse Creek and the Nimmo ranch of today. There, in a thicket-like cluster of trees near the modern house stands a beautifully weathered, long abandoned but still rather well preserved ancient two-story structure—Fagan's road ranch, the second scheduled stage coach stop on the Cheyenne-Black Hills road.

During a March blizzard of 1876 some 250 travelers caught on the road found shelter there, filling the stables and outbuildings, as well as Michael Fagan's nine-room "hotel", to overflowing. This is the only early road ranch house we know of that is still standing, practically intact. It would be a pity were it also to vanish from the stage of history.

* * *

From Fagans the old trail meanders back to the Cheyenne-Wheatland highway and crosses South Bear Creek some three miles further on. This was the site of Bard's Ranch, where Isaac Bard and his wife Rose started a roadside tavern in 1875, with some misgivings to judge by this entry in his diary: "I will now try keeping a public ranch for a year if the Good Lord is willing and the Indians will let me alone." Apparently He was and they did. In 1877 Bard's became a regular stage sta-

tion known as Little Bear. Today a modern restaurant inn or night club—apparently closed for the winter as the entrance gate was padlocked—occupies this location. It is easily and quickly accessible to Cheyenne over about thirty miles of oiled highway.

* * *

Another eighteen miles or so further north, and a short distance east of the present village of Chugwater, is the site of John (Portugee) Phillips' popular road ranch of the '70s, in a lush meadow beside the creek. A few piles of crumbled foundations, bits of rotted timber and iron, a scattering of rusted square-headed nails are probably all you can find there. But its founder is fabled in song and story for perhaps the greatest, if not the most famous, horseback ride in history. On December 21, 1866, impetuous Capt. William J. Fetterman and his command, eighty men in all, were waylaid by hostile Indians who enticed them over a ridge near Fort Phil Kearney (which Capt. Fetterman had been forbidden to cross), where they were slaughtered to a man. Several thousand tribesmen then laid siege to the small Post. Phillips, a civilian, volunteered to ride for help. He rode by night, hid by day, through blizzard and subzero weather; reached Fort Laramie, 236 miles to the southeast, late Christmas eve. A hard story to believe—but history says it is so.

* * *

Some fifteen miles further down the Chug

and several miles east of the highway lies historic old Bordeaux, last century's crossroads for travelers north, south and east. Today it is the headquarters of Fred Prewitt's "L D" ranch—yesterday, as time goes, it was the home and headquarters of Pioneer John Hunton. "L D" was the brand carried by hundreds of work cattle which pulled Hunton's bull-powered freight trains. The old brand is painted in large letters on the side of Mr. Prewitt's modern barn.

The buildings which were Bordeaux's trading post, erected in 1867, and Hunton's original road ranch, stage station and post office, are gone. About all that remains is a small burial grounds near where they stood. We do not know the names of those who lie there. But the large two-story house John Hunton built for Blanche, his bride of the early '80s, remains today a beautiful and well kept ranch home.

* * *

A few miles beyond Bordeaux the old road to Fort Laramie leaves Chugwater Creek and winds its way northeast. The first stop, after several miles of tortuous traveling, is Chug Springs (if you can find it). This was once the ranch of John Owens, a gambler-sheriff and highly respected citizen with some twenty notches on his gun.

Chug Springs is a sheltered nook on the prairie, a bit of oasis still nurtured by a nest of moss covered springs. The remains of a

massive stone foundation more than a hundred feet long and some seventy five feet wide is mute evidence that this now lonely and deserted spot once provided safe camp and shelter for thousands of gold-hungry travelers to the Black Hills and the hardy freighters of yesterday with their plodding teams of work cattle. It was also a favorite camping place for the troops who guarded their way.

A few hundred yards beyond that stone foundation the tiny valley is bordered by a rough and sudden cliff. One March morning in 1868 a half-breed Indian boy, Baptiste Ladeau, scrambled in vain for his life up the side of that steep and rocky slope. He had quit his job at the Bordeaux trading station and was on his way to Fort Laramie. The station at that time was operated by two men named Cy Williams and Swolley who followed the lad and came up with him at Chug Springs. They shot him near the top of that cliff and also killed his pony and faithful dog, for reasons unknown. Some time later soldiers who made camp there found the boy's body and buried him. In due course the half-breed relatives and friends of young Ladeau took care of both Williams and Swolley in their own savage way. They were outcasts, those half-breeds, owned by neither red men nor white. They banded together, were hard and given to vengeance.

And it was at Chug Springs that your twentieth century bull whackers almost had to make camp for the winter, or at least until

some other unlikely traveler chanced along that ghostly way. The car keys became mysteriously lost. The area was searched and searched again—no car keys; but Mr. Hildebrand did pick up one of the most beautiful bird arrow heads we have ever seen. It was perhaps three quarters of an inch long and half as wide, a glistening pink, perfectly shaped head of exquisite workmanship. Finally, when others had lost hope and were ready to quit, Mr. Bishop deployed his forces with engineering precision to cover every foot of the ground in a final and determined search. His persistence triumphed. The keys were found, coyly peeking out at us from their hiding place in that catch-all crack between the cushions of the car's front seat.

* * *

With our gas-powered stage coach ready to roll again it became a question of finding our way back from Chug Springs to that oiled highway before snow and darkness trapped us in. We did. Shelter for the night was found in Wheatland and there the expedition lost part of its equipment, namely, Mr. Bishop's suitcase, left nonchalantly behind next morning when we hit the road again. Mr. Bishop is not one to forget the hidden location of an historic site and the course of a dim covered-wagon trail, once seen, is forever engraved on his memory—but remembering such trivia as traveling bags and things like that is a different story.

However, this mishap in no way slowed down the expedition's schedule. It simply meant a few additional hardships on the trail, like one safety razor having to do the work of two. In recompense, Mr. Bishop showed us how to stroke a safety razor blade on the palm of the hand in such a way that it would stay sharp practically forever and get even sharper all the time, he said. This process, if followed, would probably have saved us at least 75 cents a year for the rest of our beard growing days—but in a mingled burst of patriotism and inertia we decided against doing it. What if every beard producing male were to start this hand-honing business and stop buying new blades? Think of the impact on U. S. Steel, employment, the national economy.

* * *

From Chug Springs the old road winds on another seven or eight miles to Eagles Nest, but you may have to travel much further than that to reach it with modern transportation. This remarkable pioneer landmark lies not more than a mile off the now little used country road south of the Laramie River between Wheatland and Fort Laramie. You will recognize it almost as far as you can see it. Those old timers had a flair for descriptive names. Two sheer cliffs rise out of the prairie. Between them is the Eagle's Nest with an entrance at either end. It was a desolate spot in the old days—no wood, little grass, but there was a well of good water. Countless names on the walls of both

cliffs show that thousands camped there through the years, or at least stopped to quench the thirst of man and beast. Many of those names were carved in the soft rock during 1877, heaviest year of the gold rush to the Black Hills. The earliest date noted in a brief examination was 1849. Since Eagle's Nest lies far off today's beaten tourist track and miles from a modern highway this register from the past has fortunately escaped serious mutilation.

* * *

The Fort Laramie national monument is some fifteen miles northeast of Eagle's Nest by the old trail, perhaps closer to twenty miles by today's road. A little more than half way there you cross a draw which Mr. Hunton called Baptiste's Fork, now known as Six Mile Creek. Notorious Six Mile Ranch once stood here—the rendezvous of bad men, tough freighters and soldiers on dubious pleasure bent, where the old timers played it fast and rough and life was at times a bit uncertain. A list of the more important killings at Six Mile has been previously published in this journal, but one would never guess at such goings on from Henry Butler's neat ranch headquarters which mark the spot today.



"OFFICERS' ROW"
FORT LARAMIE NATIONAL
MONUMENT

*"Old Bedlam", two-story structure on left.
Sutler's Store, Wyoming's oldest building,
right foreground. Restored officers'
quarters between.*

(National Park Service Photograph)

* * *

A short distance west of Fort Laramie, at the edge of the old military reservation, are remains of the Three Mile Ranch where soldiers

and others who wished to join the fun once cavorted in questionable forms of gaiety. The original site of Three Mile, on the Clark Rice place south of the Laramie, has been reduced to several mounds of rubble, with a few hand-riveted old barrel bands scattered around and a remarkably preserved rock-walled well which could probably still be used with a little cleaning out. Albert Nietfeld, born on an adjoining place and the son of Pioneer Henry Nietfeld, piloted us to this old well and also on the search for Eagles Nest—else we might still be looking for it.

* * *

On the north side of the Laramie, almost directly opposite the old well, is the later site of Three Mile, now part of the John Yoder ranch. A long, narrow building with several closely spaced alternating doors and windows along its front, still stands in fairly good condition at this location. According to John Hunton the structure was built in 1874 by E. Coffey and Cuny. Mr. Hunton recalls that these gentlemen found business slowing down at their trading post, saloon and road ranch that summer and "decided to add new attractions." They built several such cottages and recruited ten or more broadminded young women from Omaha and Kansas City to make headquarters there. Among them was the fabled Calamity Jane. So it must have been from these same windows and doors that Mistress Calamity and her professional sisters made their

welcoming bows to the men of the west, and no introductions necessary.

* * *

Before leaving the Fort Laramie area our party stopped to chat with an old friend, Clement Ayers, who was busy forking hay to his cattle on the Bill Thompson place between Threæ Mile and the Old Fort. Mr. Ayers' stepfather, the late Alvah W. Ayers, was one of the big bull-train freighters in Wyoming Territory during the late '70s and early '80s. He kept careful written records of distances between camps, of water, wood and grass conditions along the trail and other similar data essential to the operation of his business. Mr. Bishop used much of this information in preparing the maps and distance tables published in connection with this journal.

* * *

There was not much further search for old roads and places that afternoon. Something developed which seemed even more important at the moment. A rumor sprang up that Mrs. Hildebrand had food and hospitality waiting for us in Douglas. This proved to be one of the most well founded, robust and savory rumors we have ever tasted. The food was followed by hours of solid talk in the warm glow of a fireplace, uninterrupted by games or gadgets. And nobody cared about January's blow and snow outside. An evening to remember.

* * *

From Douglas a dim trail winds close by

beautiful LaPrele Creek, past John Hunton's old Milk Ranch (later Robert Fryer's blacksmith shop) and on to the site of Fort Fetterman, some eight or ten miles from town.

Standing on the sage and brush covered parade ground at that deserted place it is hard to realize it once echoed to the military tread of perhaps the mightiest forces this nation ever mustered to send against the Sioux; that from Fort Fetterman streamed the long columns of General Crook's blue uniformed troops with their thousands of horses, pack mules and long supply wagon trains to finally subdue the tribesmen and make Black Hills' gold and the other wealth of Wyoming-Montana-Dakota mountains and plains safe for the white man, whether he deserved it or not.

Only one sagging log structure and a few mounds of disintegrated rubble remain at the grave of this once proud stronghold. An old farmhouse, now likewise deserted, also stands there and emphasizes how far removed is Fort Fetterman's ancient glory.

A few miles further north on the old Bozeman Trail brings you to the equally desolate site of that once famous and infamous Hog Ranch which flaunted its attractions at the edge of the military reservation. No sign of sin or roistering gaiety there today. Just a few littered dugouts where soldiers and freighters once played and drank and fought to while away their leisure time.

The Indians and road agents are long gone, but it is still a rugged country from Fort Fetterman north along the ghostly Bozeman Trail, past those vanished camps and stage stations at Sage Creek, Brown Springs, Humpherville Creek (now known as Stinking Water). Atelope Springs and on to Powder River, with Pumpkin Buttes, where outlaws once sought refuge when things got too hot, looming up to the east. Perhaps the country seemed a little extra rugged that day with the winter wind whistling, hard snow pellets filling the air, and one hand kept busy scraping holes through heavy frost on car windshield and windows to peep through. But it is a great cattle and sheep range where the term "wide open spaces" is no exaggeration.

On that drive of some 75 miles as the snake wiggles we met not more than half a dozen cars, saw perhaps as many ranch headquarters looming dimly through the storm, passed one empty and deserted roadside store and a few distant bands of hillside bedded sheep—that was all until we approached the little town and ranching community of Sussex near the Powder River in southeastern Johnson county.

* * *

Old Fort Reno, or at least one of its sites, lies some eight or ten miles north of Sussex. This frontier post seems to have had a habit of jumping around in the area and of changing its name from time to time. Old records

show it as Fort Connor, Reno Fort and later as "Fort Reno, Wyo. on Powder River 3 miles north of old Fort Reno". There appears to still be some question among authorities as to which is which. A granite marker erected by the Wyoming Historical Landmark Commission marks the site we visited, otherwise one could easily pass it by. Here there were traces of old structures and fortifications but several inches of new snow prevented a close examination of the grounds.

* * *

On our way north from Fort Reno toward Crazy Woman Creek and old Fort McKinney, (now Buffalo) the fun really began. A dim and by now snow covered road wound and looped, with what seemed to be aimless abandon, from ridge to ridge under darkening skies. Along the way we passed a lonely sheep wagon in which there was nobody home. It was the only sign of life observed for an hour or so. Differences of opinion on how we were doing developed. One held that we were traveling north most of the time and were therefore okay; another that we had somehow made a wrong turn and were headed south to the Lord knew where; while others stoutly maintained we were just chasing our own tail light round and round in a big circle. All agreed on one thing, that such a bunch of rugged old trail followers as we could not possibly be lost, but as time went on we became increasingly suspicious that someone had carelessly misplaced the town

of Buffalo which we were so earnestly seeking.

Our arguments and apprehensions were settled at last by a dark complected ancient and amiable gentleman with white mustachios who came chugging toward us out of the twilight with a jag of coal in his pickup—headed cheerfully home to his band of sheep and that covered wagon we had passed way back yonder. He assured us if we would but follow his tracks they would lead us where we wanted to go. And sure enough, before long we came to the oil highway and there, just over a hill, nestled Buffalo snugly as ever in her sheltered saucer among the hills.

Lights from the old Occidental Hotel looked mighty warm and hospitable, and so they proved to be. Guests on the Clear Creek side of the Occidental can cast a line from their bedroom windows and doubtless catch their own breakfast trout, but we understand they seldom do.



The Occidental Hotel, Buffalo, Wyoming,
about 1881

(Photograph courtesy of Agnes Wright Spring, Colorado state historian and writer).

The proprietress of this historic hostelry was wife of the late Alfred E. Smith whose father was "Captain" John R. Smith, hero of the Battle of Horse Shoe Creek. When Pioneer John Smith was not too busy fighting Indians or shooting road agents he gave John Hunton stiff competition in the business of selling beef and hay to Uncle Sam's northern frontier posts.

Mrs. Smith and her son graciously invited our party to visit them in their hotel apartment that evening, and some great old tales were re-told. She came to Buffalo as Margaret Lothian

and recalled how a pioneer rancher of that day, Jack Moore, helped kindle the fires of romance between School Teacher Margaret and her Alfred-to-be. As we recall the story Rancher Moore, who was the father of Novelist Olga Moore Arnold, made a small bet with young Rancher Alfred Smith that he could not date the school marm and bring her out to Thanksgiving dinner. Smith won the bet, the dinner and a bride to boot. And that was probably one bet Jack Moore did not mind losing, for he is remembered as a peppery gentleman in politics, but kindly and perhaps a bit sentimental in person, especially where young school teachers were concerned.

* * *

Fort McKinney, close by Buffalo, is now the Wyoming Soldiers and Sailors Home. A peaceful spot, with fat Black Angus cattle pasturing the surrounding bottoms and meadow land and a far cry from the savage war-whoops which gave it birth.

From Fort McKinney the old trail winds north through beautiful, well watered valleys shadowed by the snow capped Big Horns, never straying far from U. S. Highway 87. Historic sites along the way are mostly well marked if not always well kept. They include: Fort Phil Kearney, a short distance from today's town of Story; nearby Massacre Hill, where rash Capt. Fetterman and his command met death; the approximate site of that famous Wagon Box fight where the Indians, in their turn, took a

bad beating; Fort McKinzey, now the Veterans Administration hospital on the outskirts of Sheridan and so on to the Custer Battle Field national monument and cemetery in southern Montana, which alone is worth the trip if one has never seen it.

* * *

It now became necessary to hurry back from fields of yesterday to the more pressing if not more interesting business of today. From Buffalo through Midwest to Casper the old, old trails show frequently on both sides of the new super-duper highway provided you know when and where to look for them. And those rolling plains between Midwest and Casper are familiar ground to Engineer Bishop who surveyed over them many years ago in the early oil discovery days, when it was necessary to travel by wagon, buggy and horseback. He recalled that many of the original section corners of that day were marked by piles of buffalo skulls. They were plentiful then while suitable rocks were often few and far between.

* * *

Such a trip is good medicine, especially if one is inclined to take today's current and personal affairs more seriously than they deserve. Makes you realize they, too—for all their present importance, pain and pleasure—will likewise soon pass and fade down the long corridor of time as have the red warchiefs, the frontiersmen and the blue-coated cavalry who were here and occupied this stage before us.

PART ONE

1876

In the pocket of John Hunton's diary for 1876 there is a note. It is not one of those drab, unemotional notes such as your banker asks you to sign today. This one is quite dramatic—a note with a message. Two fair ladies are pictured on the left side of its face. One, a sturdy damsel, is carrying what might pass as a saxaphone, but since she is scattering scads of coins from the big end it is probably the well known Horn of Plenty. Beside her is a very demure if rather skimpily clad young woman, head turned to one side in girlish embarrassment, holding a wide ribbon labeled "PEACE" in front of her tummy. But behind this innocent and pleasing tableau one notes, with instant alarm, emergence from the background of a dark and sinister figure (an Indian we'll bet) who is fixing to conk the peace-proclaiming and unsuspecting maid with what looks like a flaming shillelagh, while his other hand holds a spear quite obviously poised for no good purpose. However, in the center of the note a stern visaged Bald Eagle, with quivering wings and plainly alert to the situation, is about to hop off for the rescue.

Perhaps one purpose of all the exciting

decorations is to divert one's attention from the interest rate. The instrument reads as follows:

\$1334.00

Fort Fetterman, Wyo.,

May 1st, 1874

Sixty days (60) after date I promise to pay to the order of EDWARD PEABODY or order, One Thousand Three Hundred and Thirty Four DOLLARS at two (2) per cent. per month.

(Signed) JOHN HUNTON

On the back is written, "Received Payment EDWARD PEABODY", and in addition Mr. Hunton's signature has been neatly slashed through in half a dozen places with a sharp knife or pair of scissors.

On this happy note, printed by J. M. W. Jones, Stationer, Chicago, let us proceed to what was not a very happy new year.

The book in which the diary of 1876 is written starts off with the following table of "Contents: Calendar; Almanac, Wages Table; Interest Tables; Domestic Postage; Foreign Postage; Stamp Duties; Population of the States and Territories; Principal Cities and their Distance from New York, with Differences in Time and Population; Presidents of the United States; a Blank Space for every day in the year; Memoranda; Cash Account for each month; Annual Summary of Cash Account; Bills Receivable and Payable."

The Table of Wages "is based upon the usual calculation of 10 hours to a day" and

six days to a week. The wages run from a low of \$3.00 to a high of \$24 per week, and are broken down into rates ranging from 5 cents to 40 cents per hour, and from 50 cents to \$4.00 per day.

One also learns that: Wyoming Territory had a population of 9,118; New York City had the largest population, 926,341; LaCrosse, Wis., the smallest city recorded, boasted 7,785 inhabitants. Such small western villages as Denver are not mentioned. And Ulysses S. Grant, inaugurated March 4, 1869, was president.

- 1 8 7 6 -

"Sat, Jan 1 — (Milk Ranch on La-Prele). Walker, Stuart & Daily here last night with cattle found on Box Elder. Started new accounts book and transferred all accounts to it. P.M. went to Post (Fetterman) with John Boyd."

The "Daily" who spent New Years eve, 1875 at Hunton's Milk Ranch on the LaPrele was Wm. M. (Long) Dailey, so called because he stood well over six feet. He was born in Ohio in 1836, raised on an Indiana farm and a country school teacher for several years before coming to Wyoming. He and his brother, John L. Dailey, came to Colorado in 1859, had a try at mining and then went to Denver where William put up a building in which his brother John and Wm. N. Byers published *The Rocky Mountain News*. In the late 60's and early 70's Long Dailey raised

cattle, on the Arkansas River in partnership with Governor John Evans, on Bear Creek and finally on the Little Thompson in Larimer County, Colorado.



WILLIAM M. (LONG) DAILEY

In 1875 Dailey, Alex Wilson, Charley Campbell, Clint Graham, Joe and Andy Sullivan drove their herds from Colorado to La-Bonte Creek near Fort Fetterman, probably the first beef cattle in that area of Wyoming. In 1877 Dailey sold out to Harkness, Red

Tom and Lou Swan. He then returned to Colorado, Married Nellie M. Tilden of Denver and took up a homestead which later became Denver's Lake Archer subdivision.

This information and the above photograph comes from the records of Pioneer George H. Cross and was kindly furnished by his daughter, Mrs. Criss Cross Morton.

*"Mon, Jan 3 — (Milk Ranch).
Staid at Post all night. Went to Ranch with John Boyd. Ed Smith & others at Ranch. Shorty and Tom Wilson come to ranch with first trip of wood with Williams' teams.*

*"Tues, Jan 4 — (Milk Ranch).
Went to Post. Paid Wm. Row 50\$ for Campbell. Received saddles by the mail wagon, pd. \$5.25 freight on them. Wrote to Hon. W. R. Steel, M. C., about appropriation to build bridge across the Platte.*

*"Wed, Jan 5 — (Milk Ranch).
Went to Post, returned ox yokes, bows, etc. to Q.M. Team got in with elk. Williams & Hiram staid on Deer Creek to take care of game. (Malcolm) Campbell here tonight.*

*"Thurs, Jan 6 — (Milk Ranch).
Tried to skin elk but they are too hard frozen. Col. Chambers and party went on hunt on LaParelle. Jerome Forsythe got saddle. At Ranch all day. Cleaned up gun, pistol, etc. Very fine day, steady thaw.*

"Fri, Jan 7 — (Milk Ranch). Long Brothers went for elk with two teams. At Ranch all day writing up accounts. Shorty and Miners here tonight. Telegraph down."

For a detailed account of that remarkable hunt in which the elk referred to above were bagged, see Volume 1, following December 31, 1875 entry.

"Sat, Jan 8 — (Milk Ranch). At Ranch all day. Went to Post in wagon P.M., returned tools borrowed of Q. M. Some Indians come to Post. (Malcolm) Campbell at Ranch tonight."

Meanwhile, the gold rush to the Black Hills and Indian resentment at this "invasion" were mounting like thunderheads on opposite sides of the horizon, soon to meet headon. The following news stories of the day give some idea of the white man's feeling and viewpoint, but not, of course, of the red man's, who had no newspapers to speak for him:

"Jan 1, 1876 — (Red Cloud Agency). Indian Agent Hastings yesterday issued an order for all squaw men and gamblers and roustabouts and all others who are not in the pay of the government or the store keepers, to leave the reservation within 48 hours or abide the consequences which are understood to be driven away by the military . . . this created much 'fancydancing' all around

here tonight . . . Most of the floating population talk of starting for the Black Hills."

"Cheyenne, Jan. 1, 1876 — Capt. James Gillis, Quartermaster of the U. S. Army at Cheyenne Depot, has put a considerable force at work rebuilding the telegraph line from here to Fort Laramie . . . Now that miners are leaving here every week by the hundreds for the gold regions of the Black Hills, it will soon be necessary to have telegraphic communication with that country."

"Cheyenne Leader, Jan. 5, 1876 — (Dispatch from Fort Laramie). Miners here for supplies report a party from the Missouri river arriving in the Hills, worn out from fighting Indians on their long journey . . . The Sioux do not disturb travel on the routes to the Black Hills from this place . . . Allen and his Varieties have arrived in the Hills."

"Omaha Bee, Jan. 8, 1876. — The opening of the Black Hills to the occupancy of that country by the civilized race is now an assured fact. Whether the indolent savages who claim the Black Hills as their heritage shall peacefully consent . . . or forcibly resist . . . the tide that has set in toward Harney's Peak and Custer Park can never be turned back."

"Mon, Jan 10 — (Milk Ranch on LaPrele). Arapaho Buck and Squaw come to Ranch last night and staid all night. Got two robes of them. At Ranch all day.

"Tues, Jan 11 — (Milk Ranch). Caught coyote in trap, took it to Post (Fetterman) and had a fight with the dogs. Col. Chambers and party returned. Mail arrived. Missouri Jim at Ranch. Nice day.

"Wed, Jan 12 — (Milk Ranch). Went to Post and bargained to deliver 50 tons hay at 45\$ pr. ton. Settled accounts with L. P. Justy and M. Campbell.

"Thurs, Jan 13 — (Milk Ranch). Sent Baptiste after Nath Williams on Deer Creek. Went to Post. Lt. Robinson hurt by fall of horse. Capt. Laubenfels dismissed. Wrote to Mr. (W. G.) Bullock.

"Fri, Jan 14 — (Milk Ranch). Went to Post, and staid all day. Nath Williams and "Bat" got to ranch. Pack mule train got to Post (Fetterman).

"Sat, Jan 15 — (Milk Ranch). Nath and I went to Post in wagon. Borrowed forks and ax handles. Preparing to start to Chugg. Teams got in with elk. Made all arrangements with Nath (Williams) to take teams to (Fort) Laramie for hay. Instructed Tillotson (the saloon keeper) to pay (George) Powell 400\$.

(Ed) Smith 400\$, (Malcolm) Campbell 200\$, (W. G.) Bullock 300\$.
(Pat) Sullivan 200\$, Henry 100\$.

And this corroborating item from the Cheyenne press:

"Jan. 15, 1876 — Col. T. H. Stanton, paymaster of the U.S. Army, returned yesterday from Fort Laramie. He reports large numbers of miners enroute to the Black Hills . . . Capt. de Laubenfels, 4th Infantry, has been dismissed from the service. First Lieuts. S. Luhn, T. F. Quinn, and J. W. Babbs have been promoted to captains. The latter three are of the 4th Infantry."

"Sun, Jan 16 — George Heath, Bat & I started to Chugg, light, 5 horses. Nooned on LaBonte. Killed two deer. Got to Horse Shoe at dark.

"Mon, Jan 17 — Staid at Johnson & Walkers last night. Got to Phillips 2 P.M. Party starting from here to Black Hills. Settled up with Phillips. He owes me \$49.92. Got to Bullock place at dark.

"Tues, Jan 18 — (Bordeaux). Heavy traveling. Stopped short time at Owens'. 4 P.M. got to ranch, everything all right. Great deal of snow and quite cold.

"Wed, Jan 19 — (Bordeaux). Doing nothing. Mr. (W. G.) Bullock arrived at Ranch with Tom Maxwell. Mr.

Smith come to Ranch to fix for he and Jim Hunton to go to Black Hills.

"Thurs, Jan 20 — (Bordeaux). At ranch doing nothing all day. Pack train went to (Fort) Laramie. Black Hillers passing. Mail went to Cheyenne. Wrote to Nagle for 25\$ worth of provisions. Snowing all day and quite cold.

"Fri, Jan 21 — (Bordeaux). Big pack train passed to Cheyenne. Mail passed north. Big Sun Dogs and quite cold.

"Sat, Jan 22 — (Bordeaux). Preparing to go to (Fort) Laramie to bale hay. Jim Saunders and other parties passed for the Black Hills."

The flood gates were now open and that northbound trek to "The Hills" was on in earnest. Wyoming's rugged winter, nor Sun Dogs in the sky, nor furious savages here below, could longer hold in check that white stampede for gold. It was also a boon to the travel business — Wyoming's first tourist cavalcade. Some idea of accommodations provided for the more opulent may be gathered from these Cheyenne news stories of January 22, 1876:

PLANS BLACK HILLS STAGE LINE

"Mr. George W. Homan, Jr. of Omaha, has arrived in Cheyenne to look after the interests of the proposed Black Hills stage line. He is not yet entirely satisfied that his way stations would be safe from the incursions of the Sioux . . . But

with troops at Spotted Tail and Red Cloud to prevent any flank movement or outbreak of the only Indians who can do any harm, we would consider the new stage route as safe as the route from here to Omaha."

"J. W. Deer of Red Cloud Agency has established ranches along the route from Fort Laramie to the Black Hills at convenient distances and will keep accommodations for miners . . . the first at Government Farm, 15 miles from Fort Laramie. The next is on the headwaters of Running Water, 20 miles further, the next on Old Woman's Fork of the Cheyenne River and the last on Cheyenne river a day and a half from Custer."

"Nearly 100 men left the city for the Black Hills yesterday and at least 200 more are outfitting as rapidly as possible . . . There is no doubt the present Congress will soon make the necessary provision for dispossessing the Sioux . . . Total extinction will be their fate if the matter is put in the hands of the miners who will not stop until the Sioux is sent to the Happy Hunting Grounds."

"John S. Collins, energetic post Trader at Fort Laramie, has recently shipped through E. Nagle, of Cheyenne, an

immense amount of flour, bacon and other provisions for that post, for supplying miners in the Black Hills. Fort Laramie is only 130 miles from the Hills, is the nearest telegraph station and the nearest mail station except for Red Cloud."

Back to Hunton:

"Sun, Jan 23 — (Bordeaux). Team went to (Fort) Laramie, Mr. Smith with it. Jim & I went via Phillips. Bargained for ten tons of hay of Phillips. Got to Bullock place at dark. Bat, Lallee and other squaws went to (Fort) Laramie. Bull teams started from Fetterman.

"Mon, Jan 24 — (Bordeaux). Jim, Sam & I went to Post. Pd Harwood & Dr. Hunton (?) 13\$.

"Tues, Jan 25 — (Fort Laramie). Jim, Sam & I went to Post with wagon. Baling hay for Q. M. Brown, Charly Clay etc at Fort Laramie. Stopping at Hoppaugh's. (Hauphoff's).

"Thurs, Jan 27 — (Fort Laramie). Baled hay all day. Telegraphed Tillotson to draw on him for \$100. Many Black Hillers passing.

"Fri, Jan 28 — (Bullock Ranch). Baled hay until 12 M. Loaded press and went to Bullock place. Andy Tabor took 2 sks corn, 1 sk flour etc to Bullock place.

Mr. Bullock at his place. Molly had calf this morning. Forsythe and Minuse here. Jim & Ben horses shod. Cold & windy.

"Sat, Jan 29 — (Bullock Ranch). A. W. Means come with press. Bought logs of Minuse. Putting up press. Suffering with cold. Very windy."

— — —

But while these commonplace activities were pursuing their tranquil way in the vicinity of Fort Laramie, war and personal tragedy (as frequently happens) were creeping up inexorably on the Huntons and many others — indicating once again, in retrospect, how fortunate it probably is that few of us have prophetic vision. These were the news stories of that day in Cheyenne:

SITTING BULL ON THE WAR PATH

"Jan. 29, 1876 — (Dispatch from Fort Pease on the Yellowstone via Salt Lake via Helena) . . . Sitting Bull's band of Sioux attacked a party near Fort Pease, killing one man and wounding five others. Another party of nine men are cut off from the Fort by the Indians who number several hundred. It is feared the entire garrison will be massacred unless speedily assisted."

— — —

"Three new petitions have been filed here to set up stage lines to the Black Hills."

"A large number of parties enroute to the Hills were quartered at Dyer's Hotel last night. The Metropolitan was also full of the same class. Every hotel in the city was crammed, even the floors and billard tables being used for sleeping purposes."

But Mr. Hunton calmly continued his prosaic recording:

*"Mon, Jan 31 — (Bordeaux).
Went to Chugg Ranch horse back. Dined
at Owens'. Black Hillers passing. Train
got to Bullock place, (Nath) Williams
not with them. Williams abandoned
train on LaBontee. Snowing fast 7
P. M."*

FEBRUARY, 1876

"Tues, Feb 1 — (Bordeaux). At Ranch all day. Mr. Swan of Cuny's place here. Mail passed late. Snow drifting fast.

"Wed, Feb 2 — (Bordeaux). Swan staid all night. Went to Bullock place. Settled with H. B. Kelly, pd him \$52.58. Went to Post (Ft. Laramie) to get ox yokes. Recd check on freight from Capt. Gillis for \$1193.06. Remitted \$250 to E. Smith, M. Campbell, Geo. Powell. Baled little hay.

"Thurs, Feb 3 — (Bordeaux). Hired man and went to Bullock place. Got no yokes. Men baled 50 bales hay today.

"Fri, Feb 4 — (Bordeaux). Sent Jim Hunton to Chugg to borrow ox yokes. Baled no hay on account of high wind. All hands doing nothing today.

"Sat, Feb 5 — (Bordeaux). Baled 10 bales when the wind raised and stoped us. Done nothing bal. of day."

But although dull, if windy, along the Chugg, things were far from dull in Cheyenne. It was a memorable day for that windy city according to this newspaper story:

FIRST STAGE FOR THE BLACK HILLS

"Feb. 5, 1876: The first stage from Cheyenne to Custer City in the Black Hills leaves today from the Inter-Ocean

hotel at 7 A.M. and the trip will be made in 5 days.

"For the first two weeks the line will be semi-weekly, then daily. F. D. Yates and Co. are proprietors of this line, with headquarters at Joseph Mason's stable, 16th Street near Ferguson. The line will feature four-horse coaches with extra horses for the heavy grades. Tickets are on sale at the Inter-Ocean Hotel and Luke Murrin's office. Yates and Company have the mail contract between this city and Red Cloud . . . At least two other lines are to be started within as many months."

"Sun, Feb 6 — (Bordeaux). A.M. made 9 bales, wind raised. P.M. made 22 bales. Jim Hunton returned with 9 ox yokes and bows borrowed of McFarland & McUlvane.

"Mon, Feb 7 — (Bordeaux). Made 55 bales. Cleared ice out of river at crossing.

"Tues, Feb 8 — (Bordeaux). Loaded three wagons, 7000, 6900, 6100.

"Wed, Feb 9 — (Bordeaux). Loaded two wagons at 6700, 6400. Pulled teams across river. Jim Hunton in charge. Mr. Smith went to Post (Fort Laramie) for candles.

"Thurs, Feb 10 — (Bordeaux). Teams started. Give Jim (Hunton)

153\$ and instructions. Mr. Bullock and I went to Chugg in wagon. Met the "Hand" with Bat's horse. Give me robe. Got to Ranch 3 P.M. Dutch William has been here several days.

"Fri, Feb 11 — (Bordeaux). At ranch all day. Many Black Hillers passing. Give Tom Hunton check for \$82.29.

"Sat, Feb 12 — (Bordeaux). Mr. Bullock, Dutch William & myself went to Bullock Ranch. Loan Owens nails. Met Battiste Pourie (Baptiste Pourier) going to Cheyenne. No hay baled, very windy.

"Tues, Feb 15 — (Bordeaux). Made twelve bales hay, wind rose. Went to Post (Ft. Laramie). Saw Phillips, exchanged hay with him for Collins. Heard about expedition to rendisvous at Fetterman. Hunter to furnish 60 beeves for expedition. Beef cattle high. Indians rumors. Cavalry out after Indians. Telegraphed Jim Hunton. Dined at Cunys.

"Wed, Feb 16 — (Bordeaux). Made 14 bales, wind raised and we quit. Went to Ranch. Killed antelope. Large number Blk Hillers passing. Brown & Saulsbury running Coach (report) is they bought Yates out.

"Thurs, Feb 17 — (Bordeaux). At Ranch all day. Colin Hunter passed from

Fetterman. Reported Indians stole stock from Miners on Cottonwood.

"Fri, Feb 18 — (Bordeaux). Light snow last night. Wrote to Capt. Gillis. Went to Bullock place. Dined at Owens. P. McKay passed on Coach to Blk Hills. Men made 40 & over bales hay. Louis Richard (also Reshaw, a halfbreed) with note from Collins about hay."

Meanwhile, war with the Sioux having reached that "inevitable" stage, editors of the day were inspired to wax patriotic, propagandish and almost poetic. The *Laramie Sentinel* painted the picture as follows:

MILITARY PREPARING FOR OUTBREAK

*Miners In No Danger — If Well Armed
and Watchful*

"Feb. 18, 1876: Orders were received yesterday at Fort Sanders (an early military post near the City of Laramie) to have the cavalry horses all shod and extra sets of shoes fitted to each horse. All the pack animals were started for Fort Russell (now the Warren Air Base adjoining Cheyenne) and two cavalry companies here are ordered to hold themselves in instant readiness to leave at a moment's notice. A force of 12 or 15 companies of cavalry will within three weeks go into the northern country and rendezvous in the very midst of the Sioux.

"General Crook expects an outbreak and is preparing for it . . . Miners should not start in parties of less than 10, and should be well armed and watchful. With these precautions there is absolutely no danger . . . To put off an aggressive campaign against the Sioux would be simply foolishness . . . The Indians would scatter all over northern Wyoming if left until April or May, and it would then take a larger army than Uncle Sam can command to force them back to the Missouri river.

"Our people will rejoice to see 'our boys in blue' march to the front in order to remove the ravaging and murdering savages from a territory which is destined to be the garden spot and treasure house of this republic."

— — —

However, it was business as usual with Hunton, who stolidly records the passing hordes:

"Sat, Feb 19 — (Bordeaux). Went to ranch with wagon after wire. Dined at Owens. He went to (Fort) Laramie. Many Blk Hillers passing. (Malcolm) Campbell come to ranch from Fetterman. I went to Hunter & Abbotts."

But the Sioux were not idle while 'our boys in blue' were shoeing their horses and getting set. This from the *Cheyenne Leader*:

INDIANS STEAL CHARLIE WRIGHT'S HORSES

Poorly Armed Miners Beware

"February 19, 1876: (Fort Laramie Special Telegram to the *Leader*). The rumors that Indians from Sitting Bull's band are on a raid is verified. Today Charlie Wright arrived here from Cottonwood and reports that six of his horses have been stolen and run off by them. Captains Egan and Noyes are now out with the cavalry looking for Indians and will probably catch them.

"Miners going into the Black Hills should be well-armed and watchful. A party of three passed here Sunday having one shot-gun and two pistols. This is simply idiotic, and such men should stay out, else they deserve and may expect to be given a lesson by the Indians."

"Tues. Feb 22 — (Bordeaux). At Ranch all day. Capt. Peales Co B, 2nd Cav passed to Fetterman. Co E, 2nd Cav passed, camped here tonight, for same place. All want hay. None here. Baptiste come to Ranch. Many Black Hillers passing.

"Wed, Feb 23 — (Bordeaux). At Ranch all day fixing harness. Gen. Crook passed.

"Thurs, Feb 24 — (Bordeaux). Lt. Reynolds & Mr. Moore (boss packer)

here last night and two miners from the Hills who report very unfavorable. Gen. Peynolds passed to (Fort) Laramie. Five Companys 3rd Cavalry passed going to Fetterman. Wagons and pack trains with them all want hay. I think they are going to try to recover stolen stock from Indians and to force them to go on reservation, and will establish camp near old Ft. Reno. Ranger Jones passed with some horses recovered from Indians.

"Fri, Feb 25 — (Bordeaux). At Ranch all day. Jim Hunton got back from Fetterman. Brought letters. Mike Smith, Fisher & party here tonight. Black Hillers passing.

"Sat, Feb 26 — (Bordeaux) Jim & myself went to Bullock place. Mr. Bullock and I went to Post (Ft. Laramie). Train arrived, Geo. Powell in charge. Took Bill horse to Breakenridge."

— — —

And the *Cheyenne Leader* reports General Crook ready for action, but not fooling himself about the job ahead:

CROOK READY TO TAKE THE FIELD

Anticipates Hard Campaign With Green
Troops — Keeps Wire Hot to
Washington

"Feb, 26, 1876: A *Leader* reporter interviewed General Crook yesterday. The

General leaves for Fort Laramie this morning at 8:00 accompanied by his aide, Lt. Bourke, their conveyance being an ambulance. Once at Fort Laramie, however, the General will take the field on horseback and personally superintend the campaign against the Redskins. No aggressive movement will be made until the Indians begin their outbreak, an event liable to occur any moment.

"The General apprehends that the work of the campaign will be unusually arduous, owing to the fact that the soldiers under him are completely unaccustomed to Indian fighting.

"Yesterday he (Gen. Crook) spent an hour in the telegraph office here in correspondence with General Grant, General Sherman, Lt. General Sheridan, Gen. Custer and the commanders of Forts Laramie, Fetterman and Lincoln."

Mr. Hunton's principal role in all this was apparently to get hay for the military:

"Mon, Feb 28 — (Bordeaux). Sam, John Long & Nolan took hay press to F. M. Phillips. Mr. Bullock & myself went there horseback. Unloaded press & put it ready to work. Train loaded hay at Bullock place (14½ tons).

"Tues, Feb 29 — (F. M. Phillips Ranch). Baling hay. Phillips men helping. Jim Hunton and Bill went from

*Bullock place to ranch with mule team.
Made 47 bales today."*

In his accounts for February Mr. Hunton shows receipts of \$1193.06 from Capt. Gillis on his government contracts. This just about balanced his expenditures which totaled \$1179.18. He paid Malcomb Campbell, George Powell and Ed. J. Smith \$250 each. Other substantial payments were made to H. B. (Hi) Kelly, J. L. Collins, Jim Hunton and Sam Groves.

MARCH, 1876

"Wed, Mar 1 — (Bordeaux). Baling. Train got here, will load tomorrow. P.M. went to Ranch for wire. Made 50 bales today. At Ranch, Kelly here tonight. Heard expedition left for Fort Fetterman today.

"Thurs, Mar 2 — (Bordeaux). Went to Phillips with wire. Baling and loading. Finished at dark. Got 15 tons hay of Phillips. Heard ponies were missing at Bullock Ranch."

It is seldom that John Hunton permits himself to express emotion in this journal, but if you happen to believe in such things the following entry may record a premonition of impending tragedy:

"Fri, Mar 3 — (Bordeaux). Sam Groves went to look for ponies and to get someone to move hay press. Powell started with train at noon. Baled 54 bales for Phillips and took press to pieces. Dreamed of fighting, of being shot and shooting people, for the last five or six nights. Mr. Bullock went to Chug Ranch. Very fine day.

"Sat, Mar 4 — (Bordeaux). Went to Chug Ranch on pony borrowed of Phillips. Bull train passing for Fetterman."

By now the gold excitement, that lure of quick, easy wealth, was mushrooming from

the Black Hills in all directions like an atomic cloud, as evidenced by the following letter published in Cheyenne. And some of the answers to that letter must have been written by the primordial ancestor of today's chamber of commerce secretary.

This is a sample of the growing public excitement, while Hunton stoically delivered hay for Uncle Sam's horses and mules:

SURE THERE'S GOLD IN THEM HILLS

*And Cheyenne Can Outfit You at
Rock Bottom Prices*

"March 4, 1876: (Toledo, Ohio, February 22, to the editor of the (Cheyenne) *Leader*). I have been asked to organize a Black Hills party. It will consist of men from Northern Ohio, Canada and Southern Michigan and will start about April 1st. I am sure I could organize a large party, at least 1,000 men, and would go directly to Cheyenne, but before undertaking such an enterprise would like to have some assurance that the men engaging in it would be successful, and therefore desire answers to the following questions:

"1. Do the people of Cheyenne candidly believe that gold in paying quantities is found in the Black Hills?

"2. Are there freight lines established to the Hills?

"3. Are plenty of horses on sale in Cheyenne and at what price?"

"4. What is the fare from Cheyenne to the Hills by coach?"

"Respectfully, R. M. TAYLOR"

"Answers:

"1. Yes. We have the personal assurance of men whose veracity is beyond question and who have had extensive mining experience, that there is gold and plenty of it.

"2. Yes. Our forwarding houses can furnish transportation for 2,000,000 pounds at a shipment.

"3. Yes. Horses are plentiful and cheap here. Price range is as follows: Well-broken saddle horses, \$35 to \$75 each, or with saddle, bridle, etc. from \$40 up. Well-broken work teams \$100 to \$250 a span; single carriage horses, \$100 to \$250 each; mules \$200 to \$400 a span.

"4. The fare by private conveyance from Cheyenne to Custer City is \$12 to \$25. A daily stage line will be running in a week or two, and the fare will probably be \$40, but will be greatly reduced if patronage justifies a reduction, as will be the case. The time by stage will be three days each way. It will cost less to outfit here than to bring outfits with you. Heavy stocks and hot competition will cause this."

And business was good at Hunton's Bordeaux Road Ranch, too:

"Sun, Mar 5 — (Bordeaux). At Ranch all day. Large party of Black Hillers staid all night. Col. Bacon & Burbank with them (here tonight). Sam Groves here, sold him the two young mules for 275\$ if he wants them within 30 days.

"Mon, Mar 6 — (Enroute to Fetterman). Started to Fetterman via the Bullock Ranch. Heard of Persimmon Bill killing Sergt Sullivan. Wrote deed for Callahan & Groves. Groves bought Callahan's place."

After killing Sgt. Sullivan, Persimmon Bill apparently achieved considerable prominence in the field of general outlawry and even succeeded in getting himself hanged eventually. That story is told in Forest Crossen's "Old West Tales", April 1, 1955 issue of *Western Farm Life*.

"Tues, Mar 7 — (Enroute). Staid last night at Bullock Ranch. Callahan signed deed transferring his place to Sam Grove. Started to Fetterman. Sam paid Callahan.

"Wed, Mar 8 — (Enroute). Staid last night at Staurts Ranch on Cottonwood. Dined at Johnson & Walkers upper Ranch and went to their lower Ranch.

"Thurs, Mar 9 — (Enroute). Staid

last night with Johnson and here all day. Heavy snow last night and today.

"Fri, Mar 10 — (Enroute). Staid with Johnson last night. Went to Elk Horn where I overtook ox train snowed in. Train short of rations. Killed small beef belonging to Johnson & Walker. Very cold.

"Sat, Mar 11 — (Milk Ranch an La-Prele). Staid with train last night. Got to Milk Ranch about 3 P.M. Train pulled out. Very cold all day."

But snow and cold does not stop the progress of more and better transportation to "The Hills". The Cheyenne press reports:

TEN CONCORD COACHES READY FOR BLACK HILLS

*Cheyenne Citizens Will Build New Road
Shorten Route To Custer City*

"March 11, 1876: The proprietors of the Cheyenne-Black Hills stage line, Messers Gilmer and Salisbury and H. M. Patrick, have written a letter to Superintendent Kimball of the Union Pacific Railroad from which we make the following extracts:

"We have now on hand and ready for service ten Concord overland coaches and sufficient harness to equip the line, with facilities to double the number of stages and equipment on a week's notice if the travel should require it.

"Eating places between here and Fort Laramie are already established and from Fort Laramie to Custer City are already being built, and will be ready to commence operations in about two weeks so that we shall have the daily line of stages fully inaugurated and running through Custer City on or before April 1.

"Following we give the distances from Cheyenne to the Black Hills:

	Miles
Cheyenne to Lodgepole creek	18
Lodgepole creek to Horse creek	10
Horse creek to Bear Springs	10
Bear Springs to Chugwater	13
Chugwater to Hunton's Ranch	12.5
Hunton's Ranch to Eagle's Nest	9
Eagle's Nest to Fort Laramie	17.5
Fort Laramie to Spring Branch	12
Spring Branch to Raw Hide	12
Raw Hide to Niobrara River	15
Niobrara to Old Woman's Fork	12
Old Woman's Fork to	
Second Camp	15
Second Camp to South Beaver	10
South Beaver to Big Cheyenne	
Forks	12.5
	<hr/>
	178.5

"These distances are by the road soon to be built by the citizens of Cheyenne. By the road now traveled the distance is 246 miles."

FORTY HOUSES AND CONFUSION IN CUSTER CITY

"March 11, 1876: An old citizen, Peter McKay, is in the Black Hills and says . . . 'Custer City now numbers 40 houses. The reason so little gold is actually being taken out is that the miners now in the Hills have been rushing hither and thither, fairly dazed by the daily recurring reports of discoveries "over on the next creek" and that the real work has not yet begun."

— — —

SITTING BULL'S SHADOW HANGS OVER ALL

"March 11, 1876: Sitting Bull . . . has collected 1,500 braves at the mouth of Powder River in the Yellowstone country and defies the combined forces of Generals Custer and Crook, numbering 2,000 men, to convince him that the Government really amounts to anything. An expedition is already enroute for the neighborhood of the obstinate redskins and it is safe to predict that before many moons are wasted, Sitting Bull will cease to be a sitting bully in that locality."

— — —

All this military preparation isn't hurting John Hunton, at least not in the pocketbook, he being a "war contractor" of that day:

"Sun, Mar 12 — (Milk Ranch on LaPrele). Went to Post (Fetterman) in wagon. Recd voucher from Capt. Gillis for \$2662.77, signed and returned it.

"Mon, Mar 13 — (Milk Ranch). At Post (Fetterman) last night. Borrowed 4 sks flour from Q.M. Went to Ranch in wagon. (Malcolm) Campbell went to Box Elder. \$100 stolen from John Boyd at Ranch.

"Wed, Mar 15 — (Milk Ranch). At Ranch all day. Made hammers. Sent John Boyd to Wagon Hound with ox yokes and chains. Deepest snow on ground that has fallen this winter. Mail passed late. Trabing wants freighters.

"Thurs, Mar 16 — (Milk Ranch). At Ranch all day. Got papers and letters from T. (probably Trabing) Bros. & Wilson. Courier from Expedition reported beef herd stolen, Jim Wright shot, soldier wounded. Camps attacked. Infantry stoped at Reno. Nice day.

"Fri, Mar 17 — (Milk Ranch). Hathaway, Smith & others preparing to (go to) Medicine Bow for freight. Train got to Ranch. Cattle all looking bad.

"Sat, Mar 18 — (Milk Ranch). Went to Post (Fetterman). Unloaded hay. Went to Ranch. Men drunk. Wilson's money stolen. 40\$."

And this news of the day from Cheyenne:

*FORT LARAMIE BRIDGE
FINISHED*

*Miner's Supply Business Booming —
Hay \$60 Ton*

"March 18, 1876: Capt. Stanton of the Engineers Department leaves here today for Fort Laramie to inspect and accept the new iron bridge across the Platte, which will at once be thrown open for travel.

"283 men left Cheyenne yesterday for the Hills . . . Pease and Taylor sold 'dried apples and things' to 22 Black Hillers yesterday . . . E. Nagle sold Black Hills Outfits to 25 men yesterday.

"Parties leaving for the Black Hills should be well-equipped with horse feed. Baled Hay is \$60 per ton at Fort Laramie, and corn \$3.50 per hundredweight."

But all this excitement did not slow down the wheels of justice at Hunton's Ranch on the LaPrele:

"Sun, Mar 19 — (Milk Ranch). Went to Post (Fetterman) and hauled the McLaughlin hay. Col. Sheridan arrived. Tom Wilson's money recovered from Pat Corbliss after hanging him a little. Nice day.

"Mon, Mar 20 — (Fort Fetterman). At Post all night. Hauled the Coats hay which finished contract. Got \$594 of Tillotson to pay men. Sent Stephens & Wilcox order to collect hay voucher and place to Cr. of E. Tillotson. Went to Ranch. Bob Walker passed.

"Tues, Mar 21 — (Milk Ranch). Paid men off and discharged them. At Ranch all day.

"Wed, Mar 22 — (Milk Ranch). Went to Post (Fetterman) and staid all day. Powell and others gathered work cattle and put them in pasture for the night. Won watch at cards from McMillan.

"Thurs, Mar 23 — (Milk Ranch). Powell, Campbell and myself took work cattle to Box Elder. Jack Russell (Buckskin) & Tom Reed got in from Crook's expedition and reported its failure.

"Fri, Mar 24 — (Malcolm) Campbell's Ranch). Staid last night at Campbell's. Went to choppers camp and received 336 cords wood and returned to Campbell's. Bob Walker and man there. The Phillips steer missing. Give orders to haul hay.

"Sat, Mar 25 — (Milk Ranch). Helped Campbell drive 10 beeves to slaughter house. Walker and man went home. Went to Post (Fetterman) and

back home. Crook's expedition expected at Post tomorrow."

Bob Walker and his partner, Skew Johnson, both Confederate soldiers, came up the Texas Trail with a herd of Longhorns and settled on Horseshoe Creek in 1871. History has it they were the first to locate there following the burning out and general massacre of previous early settlers by the Sioux in 1868.

Crook's ignominious affair with Crazy Horse's band, forcing him to return to Fetterman and reorganize for a summer campaign, left our military glum and red-faced but was apparently no damper on the rising tide of gold seekers flowing into the Black Hills, to judge by these items from Cheyenne:

A STEAM SAW MILL FOR CUSTER CITY

Hospitality for Man and Beast at Portugee Phillips'

"March 25, 1876: Sixteen wagons drawn by 50 yoke of oxen pulled out for the Hills yesterday. A part of the load was a large steam saw mill for Custer City.

"John Phillips (Portugee Phillips), the popular ranchman at "The Chug", well known to all our old settlers and frontiersmen, has made arrangements to furnish accommodations for man and beast at his ranch which is the stage and

mail station and post office at the crossing of the Chugwater on the Fort Laramie and Black Hills route. All who patronize Phillips will find a jovial host, a straight-forward business man, generous, kind-hearted and accommodating."

At Fort Fetterman, while the military brass cast about for scapegoats on which to hang the blanket of humiliation received from Crazy Horse, our boys in blue sought solace in alcohol, as soldiers are frequently wont to do whether in victory, in defeat or in between:

"Sun, Mar 26 — (Milk Ranch on LaPrele). Went to Post (Fetterman). Expedition arrived. Made a disastrous campaign. Lost many mules and horses, 4 men killed, others wounded. Indians retained possession of battlefield and the dead, & recaptured all their ponies, 700 in all. Much hardship endured by troops. Bought two robes for 10\$. Powell went to Wagonhound.

"Mon, Mar 27 — (Milk Ranch). Went to Post and staid nearly all day. Much drinking going on. Could get no news and went home.

"Tues, Mar 28 — (Fort Fetterman). Both "Bats" went home. Went to Post. 4 companies of Cavalry and all the pack trains left this morning. Much talk about Court Martialing officers for fail-

ure in the late campaign against the Indians."

Baptiste Pourier (Big Bat) and Baptiste Garnier (Little Bat) were both scouts for General Crook on this ill-fated expedition, according to "On the Border With Crook", by John C. Bourke, who also lists Frank Guard, Louis Richard, Louis Changrau, Speed Stagner and Ben Clarke among the scouts and pays tribute to their efficiency throughout the campaign.

"Wed, Mar 29 — (Fort Fetterman). At Post last night. Five companies cavalry and wagon trains left this morning.

"Thurs, Mar 30 — (Fort Fetterman). At Post last night and all day. Mail arrived. Breakenridge arrived with Govt. train. Letter from Capt. Gillis enclosing \$2662.77. 8 P. M. snowing hard.

"Fri, Mar 31 — (Milk Ranch). At Post last night. Sent money to Whipple to pay for clothes. Will start to Chugg tomorrow. P. M. went to Ranch. Williams and other loafers there. Snowed fast all night and day. This has been a very snowy & stormy month."

As usual in times of war and preparation for war business picked up, and John Hutton's business was no exception. His account page for the month of March, 1876, shows the following entries:

Received from: L. P. Justy \$50.00; E. Tillotson \$594.55, \$30.00, \$500.00, \$200.00 (in cash) and in payments made on Hunton's order to Matthews \$250.00, Whipple & Clay \$100.00, J. Long \$50.00 and Blodget \$188.00.

Paid to: Jim Nolan \$38.55, John Long \$40.00, W. Marsh \$45.00, Sam Grove \$20.00, Bull Whackers \$431.33, Geo. Powell \$175.00, E. Tillotson \$4912.77, Jules Ecoffee \$90.00 and Little Bat (to buy a horse) \$20.00.

APRIL, 1876

"Sat, Apr 1 — (En route). (Malcolm) Campbell & I started to Chugg. Roads very muddy. Snow deep.

"Sun, Apr 2 — (Enroute). Staid with Powell on Wagonhound. Nooned at Walkers on Horse Shoe. Reel's Bull train snowed in on Horse Shoe.

"Mon, Apr 3 — (Bordeaux). Staid last night at Stuarts on Cotton Wood. Nooned at Phillips. Met Clay, Means & Mays outfits. Got to Ranch 4 P. M. Two Companies (Peals & Robinsons) camped here. Team gone to Kelly's for hay. Jim got in from Cheyenne.

"Wed, Apr 5 — (Bordeaux). Black Hillers passing. Phillips teams went to Cheyenne. Stuart & Johnson & Walkers teams passed going home. ("Hi") Kelly come to Ranch L. (probably Lallee) with him.

"Thurs. Apr 6 — (Bordeaux). (Hi) Kelly and Mr. (W. G.) Bullock went to Fort Laramie. Team went after hay. At Ranch all day.

"Fri, Apr 7 — (Bordeaux). Making fence. Team got back with hay. (Malcolm) Campbell & Colin Hunter and Mr. Liggett here to dinner. Give Tom Haynes 50 dollars to buy grain.

"Sat, Apr 8—(Bordeaux). Team went for hay. "Skew" Johnson passed

with ponies. Campbell & Hunter started to Fetterman. Give Campbell order on Tillotson for \$450. Mr. Liggett here waiting to see Kelly. Mr. Bullock & Kelly got back (from Fort Laramie) and went on to Kelly's. May's teams passed to Cheyenne.

"Thurs, Apr 13 — (Bordeaux). Hauling poles and making fence. Joe Morris (F. M. Phillips' foreman) here tonight. Also lot of returning Black Hillers. Heard of Indians killing man near Cheyenne river.

"Fri, Apr 14 — (Bordeaux). Ronsey passed to Cheyenne having been wounded by Indians at or near Red Canon. Maj. Staunton passed to (Fort) Laramie.

"Sun, Apr 16 — (Bordeaux). Maj. Staunton passed to Cheyenne. Mr. Bullock went with him. Jim Hunton went to Laramie after Sam Groves. Sam & Mr. Smith come to Ranch. Jim staid on Laramie.

"Mon, Apr 17 — (Bordeaux). Loaned Mr. Smith horse and saddle to go to Cheyenne. Commenced tearing roof off house to repair it. Charly Clay went to his bridge on Laramie with Kelly.

"Tues, Apr 18 — (Bordeaux). Work on roof at Ranch. Coach passed to (Fort) Laramie. Hired Shadly & Powers mules & wagon to go to Cottonwood.

Tom Street come on Coach to see me on business. Jim May & others went to B. Hills on coach. Kelly passed home. "L" (probably Lallee) went to Laramie."

Mrs. Emma Criss Cross Morton, of Oakland, California, a daughter of the late Hon. George H. Cross, Douglas pioneer, found this interesting note concerning Lallee and little Mary among her father's papers. It is written in pencil on an envelope:

"When Fred St. Dennis and I drove up to LaBonte in the early spring of 1876 we stopped at the Hunton Ranch and Lallee cooked us a good dinner. Some cowboys who had also stopped for dinner teased little Mary and Lallee put a stop to it immediately. She protected little Mary, who was crippled, with a motherly instinct — but Mary might have been her young sister."

And so relationship of the child Mary to Lallee remains a mystery. In the same memorandum Pioneer Cross made these additional comments:

"Hi Kelly was the only pioneer who kept his squaw. The others were criticized for discarding their good, faithful squaws. I knew 'Little Bat' (Garnier) well and often saw him over the years. Like Lallee (his sister) he knew quite a bit of French and we used to talk French just for fun. He told me the Indians re-

gretted that their people had killed his father as he enjoyed the friendship of all the chiefs."

"Wed, Apr 19—(Bordeaux). Work on roof getting along well, putting on dirt. Coach passed to Cheyenne. T. S. (Tom Street ?) went on it. Mules & wagon return by Shadly.

"Thurs, Apr 20 — (Bordeaux). Mail north, Kelly on Coach. Sam went to Laramie River. "L" come home. Black Hillers passing both ways.

"Fri, Apr 21 — (Enroute to Fetterman). Jim Hunton returned from Laramie. Coach passed south, Kelly on it, told me men and women killed by Indians. Started to Fetterman, Jim & Bill horses. Found Govt. horse on Chug. Nice day.

"Sat, Apr 22 — (Enroute). Staid last night at (F. M.) Phillips. Govt. team and another team there. Sold interest in Govt. horse to Johnnie Williams for \$55. Nooned at Stuarts. He and others getting cattle of Indian contractor. Went to Johnson & Walkers, Hathaway there. Met bull teams on Cotton Wood.

"Tues, Apr 25 — (Milk Ranch on LaPrele). Staid at Powell's Camp on Wagon Hound last night. Got to Milk Ranch 11 A. M. Got dinner and went to Post (Fetterman). Heard of Stutering Brown being killed by Indians. Capt.

*Luhn got to Fetterman with recruits.
Nice day."*

H. E. (Stuttering) Brown came to Cheyenne from Salt Lake City in January, 1876, as a business agent for Gilmer, Salisbury and Patrick, leading stage coach operators of that day. Acting in their behalf he bought the first stage line from Cheyenne to the Black Hills from Yates & Co. on February 12, 1876, and was made superintendent of the line from Fort Laramie north.

Brown was fatally wounded on the trail north of Hat Creek Station and when found sent word to Luke Voorhees in Cheyenne that he wanted to talk with him before he died. Voorhees, so the story goes, immediately left Cheyenne horseback and by changing mounts at every station made the hundred mile ride to Fort Laramie in nine hours, climbed on another fresh horse without stopping to rest and continued toward Hat Creek another fifty miles or so further north. But Voorhees' hard ride was in vain. Shortly after midnight he met a detachment of cavalry near Raw Hide Buttes bearing Brown's body to Fort Laramie. So no one knows what it was that Stuttering Brown wanted to tell Voorhees, his boss, before he died. There was some talk that he may have been killed by stage robber Persimmon Bill Chambers instead of by Indians — but apparently that is something else no one ever knew, for sure.

"Wed, Apr 26 — (Milk Ranch).
Staid at Post last night. Nothing new.
Sergt. McLaughlin wants 45\$ per ton for
his hay. Got the McMillan watch.

"Thurs, Apr 27 — (Milk Ranch).
Went to Post. Powell in with wood.
Sold him silver watch for 75\$.

"Fri, Apr 28 — (Milk Ranch.)
Colin Hunter here last night. He and
John Otten started to roundup on La-
Bonte. Powell camped here last night &
bargained to run Sam's teams and haul
wood. Put rim on wheel, fixing racks.
Went to Post in wagon. Govt. trains, ar-
rived.

"Sat, Apr 29 — (Milk Ranch).
Fixing wood racks. Lord and others went
for freight to "The Bow".

"Sun, Apr 30 — (Milk Ranch). At
Post last night. Speed (Stagner) ret'd
from Med. Bow, reports road good except
in Box Elder Cannon. Govt. train started
to "Bow".

Mr. Hunton collected no money from the
government in April 1876, according to his
account in the back of the book, but had plen-
ty of expenses. His principal payments were
to: W. G. Bullock \$500, Jim Hunton \$200.
M. Campbell \$450, Geo. Powell \$500

MAY, 1876

"Mon, May 1 — At (Milk) Ranch all day. Fixed lock chains on wagons.

"Tues, May 2 — (Milk Ranch). Heavy frost last night. Took "Tally" the Blacksmith to the Post (Fetterman) where he is hired. Staid all day. Campbell left Hospital. Tom come to Milk Ranch with beef cattle from Box Elder.

"Wed, May 3 — (Milk Ranch). Staid at Post last night. Colin Hunter got back from roundup. Loaned my horses to Hunter's herders to corral beeves. Went to Ranch. Kipp come to Ranch. Powell got in wood. McMillan in with coal.

"Thurs, May 4 — (Milk Ranch.) Went to Post (Fetterman) in wagon, Powell and Kipp with me. Bids for beef opened, Hunton & Kipp lowest bidder, 11 & 10 cents. Noon went to Ranch. Powell started three my teams and two of his for wood to Box Elder. Burkett's Govt. train arrived. Bought pony of Powell for 15\$. A.M. snowed fast. P.M. clear and nice.

"Fri, May 5 — (Milk Ranch). Went to Box Elder with C. Hunter & John Boyd. Rounded up oxen and picked out John's team. Got back to Milk Ranch about sunset. Heard of horses being stolen on Chug & Jim (Hunton)

missing. Went to Post. Rain storms nearly all day.

"Sat, May 6 — (Enroute to Bordeaux). Staid at Post (Fetterman) last night. 8 A.M. got telegram announcing that Jim had been killed by Indians. Started to Chug. Hunter & Kipp with me. Horse Shoe after dark. Cotton Wood 2 o'clock at night. Storming nearly all day.

"Sun, May 7 — (Enroute). Left Cotton Wood at sunrise. Saw roundup party on N. Laramie. Borrowed Phillips driving team. Got to Ranch (Bordeaux) 2 P.M. Started to Cheyenne with Jims remains at 5 o'clock P.M. Nice day.

"Mon, May 8 — (Cheyenne). Staid at Kellys last night. Nooned at Horse creek. Got to Cheyenne at 5 P.M. Arrangements made by Mr. Fogelsong and Frank Hunter. Mr. Bullock unwell. Nice day.

"Tues, May 9 — (Cheyenne). In town all day. BURIED JIM."

— — —

The several stories of how Jim Hunton was killed vary considerably in detail. Here is the dispatch sent from Fort Laramie and published in the *Cheyenne Leader*.



JAMES HUNTON

Killed by Indians May 4, 1876

“THE MURDER OF JAMES HUNTON”

“ ‘Alter Ego.’ writing from Fort Laramie under date of May 6, says: The garrison was startled last evening by news

that Indians had, the evening before, visited Hunton's ranch on the Chugwater 26 miles south of this post, and stolen 30 head of horses. Besides this, James Hunton, a well-known frontiersman, was supposed to have been killed from the fact that his horse came galloping to the ranch without a rider. Twenty men under Lieut. Allison were immediately started in pursuit of the maurauders and it soon transpired that the report was only too well-founded.

"Mr. Hunton had ridden out into the hills in search of stray stock and some five or six miles from the ranch was evidently surprized by about 30 Indians. From appearance of ground in vicinity it is believed that his horse in making some terrible bounds to escape, unfortunately stumbled and threw his rider; that Mr. Hunton regained his feet and ran some 50 yards when, catching his foot in a vine, he also stumbled. There he was surrounded and the savages amused themselves by firing eight bullets into his head and body . . . The ground in the vicinity was literally covered with moccasin tracks.

"The savages then endeavored to catch the horse, which is well known all over the frontier as a very superior animal. They ran him until arriving in sight of the ranch, and . . . remained lying concealed until night . . . when they broke

into the corral and stole the 30 horses already referred to. Their trail leads in the direction of the Red Cloud Agency, and owing to a "cut off" made by Lieut. Allison, it is not unlikely that he will either strike them before they reach that hive of rascally thieves or else make the pursuit so hot they will be glad to relinquish their boot and scatter to the four winds . . ."

Note: But despite "Alter Ego's" optimistic confidence in Lt. Allison and his twenty men, none of the Hunton horses were ever recovered.

John G. Bourke in his book, "On the Border with Crook" gives the number of horses stolen as thirty-two, says Hunton's body when found showed eleven wounds, three of them from arrows, and blames Lt. Allison's failure to catch the Indians on a sudden, blinding May snowstorm which obliterated their tracks. John Hunton, at Fetterman some 80 miles to the north, records snow, rain and storms on the 4th, 5th and 6th of May, so that may well have been the case.

JOHN HUNTON'S ACCOUNT OF HIS BROTHER'S DEATH

Many years later John Hunton's own account of Jim's killing was written by him for the *Fort Laramie Scout* and published therein on July 28, 1927 as follows:

" . . . May 4, 1876, James Hunton,

my brother, left Bordeaux, my home, on the afternoon of that day to go to the ranch of Charles Coffee, on Boxelder creek about 14 miles east of Bordeaux, to get a horse he had traded for. While going down through "the notch" in Goshen Hole, about half way between the two places, he was waylaid, shot and killed by five Indian boys, who were out on a horse stealing expedition. The Indians then went to my ranch at Bordeaux after night and rounded up, stole and drove off every head of horses and mules (38) I owned except my saddle horse, which I had with me at Fort Fetterman where I received the news by telegraph the morning of the 6th. The horse my brother was riding ran and the Indians could not catch him and the next morning was seen on top of the bluff east of the ranch. Blood on the saddle told the tale and a searching party found the body that afternoon."

A BROTHER'S RAGE

There is reason to believe John Hunton learned some of the above details of his brother's death directly from the very Indians, or at least one of them, who committed the act.

One sultry summer day in the early 20's, jogging to the "Station" from Fort Laramie with Mr. Hunton in his old buckboard drawn by his last driving team, Dutch and Brownie, he told the writer substantially this story.

Some time after his brother's death, when there was again an uneasy peace between the red men and the white, Hunton was present at an Indian "feast" — we do not know the date or place. He told how on occasions the Indians would gorge themselves with unbelievable quantities of meat, often to the point where they would fall over unconscious, as though drunk, and sleep the clock around where they lay. He also recalled that these same Indians, if the occasion required, could travel for days without food and apparently suffer no serious discomfort or loss of strength.

And at such feasts following the end of hostilities it was considered proper and commendable for warriors who had distinguished themselves to make speeches bragging of their exploits and telling how they had killed their late enemies. On this night a young Indian arose and told in gory detail how he and others had killed Jim Hunton.

John Hunton said simply, "When I heard it I suddenly saw red" and he reached for his gun with but one thought, to kill that Indian. Squatted beside him in that dim circle by the flickering fire was a young cavalry officer who saw Hunton's move and grabbed his gun arm by the wrist before he could draw. Without moving from their places, and apparently unobserved, the two men struggled silently for a few seconds until Hunton regained his senses, and sat stoically dead-panned during the re-

mainder of the evening, as demanded by protocol.

The old gentleman observed thoughtfully that had he fired on his brother's killer the twenty or thirty white men present would undoubtedly have been killed in a matter of seconds by the hundreds of Indians who surrounded them.

So that unknown, quick witted young officer with a strong grip possibly robbed history of another massacre. We would probably all be surprised if we knew how many momentous events actually hinge on small incidents which seldom find their way into the books.

"Wed, May 10 — (Cheyenne). In Cheyenne all day. Gen. Crook arrived.

"Thurs, May 11 — (Enroute to Bordeaux). Started home. Nooned at Fagans. Gen. Crook going to Agencies.

Fri, May 12 — (Bordeaux). Staid at Kellys last night. Gen. Crook staid at Phillips. Got to Ranch 8 A.M. Fast freight teams passed for Fetterman. Bat gone to (Fort) Laramie. Sam Groves went to Bullock Ranch. Mail south. Nice day.

But while Hunton was quietly nursing his shock on the Chugg with the medicine of hard work and life's daily routine, word of the mountings hazards and killings and apparent panic on that "safe" route to the Black Hills began to spread. Cheyenne did not like this,

it must have hurt business and the *Leader* screamed with true civic spirit:

LYING STATEMENTS

About Shootings and Deserted Wagons on Custer Road

"May 13, 1876: 'Dr.' J. B. Pendery of Omaha, who has probably been as far north as Fort Laramie, reached Omaha Tuesday and was interviewed by a *Bee* reporter and several of his lying statements were telegraphed here by the Associated Press. He stated that the road from Fort Laramie to Custer City is lined with deserted wagons and that he himself dressed the wounds of 12 men who were shot by Indians within the last three weeks. We have proof that both statements are absolutely false. There are only three deserted wagons on the portion of the road he mentions."

But despite this righteous indignation of the Cheyenne editor, his news columns had to report the same day that war strength of the Sioux was rapidly mounting:

HOSTILE CHIEFS JOIN SITTING BULL

Urge Warriors to Leave the Reservation— Have Large Supplies of Ammunition

"Those (Indians) who escaped the attack on Crazy Horse's village on March 17th have joined him. Sitting Bull. Bull

Eagle and other hostile chiefs are doing their utmost to persuade the young men to leave all the reservations. The Indians are getting large amounts of ammunition by half breeds.

"Gen. Crook's expedition will start out May 15. It will be divided into three detachments, moving from the Union Pacific, from Fort Ellis down the Yellowstone and from Fort Lincoln up the Yellowstone.

"Another effort is about to be made to pacify the gentle savages about the invasion of the Black Hills. A new peace commission will start for Red Cloud agency to induce Red Cloud, Spotted Tail and Company to abandon their present camping grounds and take up new quarters on the upper Missouri. One commissioner, C. P. Beauvais of St. Louis, lived among the Sioux for many years."

— — —
"Sun, May 14 — (Bordeaux). Started to Box Elder, met Kelly, McUlvane & others on roundup. They came to Ranch and corralled cattle. I have few head in the herd. Kipp & John Shay with me.

"Mon, May 15 — (Bordeaux). Kelly & McUlvane party here last night. Cut out and corralled cattle but could not brand on account of wind. Col. Bacon come to Ranch. Very high wind.

"Tues, May 16 — (Bordeaux).
Branded 15 calves. Sent John Shay to
Laramie River after Sam Groves. Owens'
Ox teams come to go after hay. Owens
got white lead & oil.

"Wed, May 17 — (Bordeaux).
Owens team went to (Hi) Kellys for hay.
Kelly sent man with horses to get wagon
to go on roundup. Hired man to drive
wagon and started it after noon. Kipp
went with it to represent me on lower
roundup. Sam come to Ranch."

The above entries sound peaceful enough,
but news stories of the day give a different pic-
ture. The Sioux, far from subdued, were full
of fight and deviltry, and Uncle Sam, having
licked his wounds, was flexing his muscles
once more and about ready to take another poke
at them:

STAGE DRIVER CHARLES CLARK VICTIM OF INDIANS

General Crook Has Narrow Escape from Ambush

"Fort Laramie: (Special to the
Cheyenne Leader) May 17, 1876 . . .
Gen. Crook, Col. Stanton and Lieut.
Bourke returned here today from Red
Cloud. The General was unsuccessful in
obtaining Sioux to act as scouts and
guides for his expedition. He left for Fort
Fetterman this afternoon.

"Gen. Crook narrowly escaped an ambushade on his return to this post. When he reached a point five miles this side of Red Cloud he met Charles Clark, stage driver and mail carrier. The latter, a few miles later was ambushed and killed by Indians, who stole the horses and left his body and the mail in the road . . ."

WAR CORRESPONDENTS GATHER IN CHEYENNE

Form Secret Association

"May 17, 1876: A number of war correspondents of eastern papers here waiting the departure of Crook's expedition, have formed a secret association, their insignia will be a cherry tree and hatchet."

INDIANS LEAVING RED CLOUD FOR WAR PATH

"May 17, 1876: The situation at Red Cloud Agency is bad. Eighty lodges have left there within 10 days. All government stock has been run off and fresh outrages are a daily occurrence. All supplies sent from Fort Laramie are heavily guarded."

Mr. Hunton observes and records the worsening situation in his own unemotional way:

"Thurs, May 18 — (Bordeaux). Tom Matthews got to Ranch. Hauled poles and made some fence. Team got back with hay. Gen. Crook returned from Agency and went to Fetterman.

"Fri, May 19 — (Bordeaux). Went to Fort Laramie. Sam Groves went to Bullock Place with light wagon. Met parties returning from Blk. Hills who had lost stock by Indians. Heard of killing of Jim Sanders and Red Cloud mail carrier. Pulliam & others in from Agency circulating petition for Dan Titus.

"Sat, May 20 — (Bordeaux). Staid at 3 Mile Ranch last night. Much excitement about Indians killing people. Went to Post and then to Bullock place. Tom Matthews at latter.

"Sun, May 21 — (Bordeaux). Went to Ranch. Took all the Durham cattle. Lost my revolver and did not find it. Expedition troops camped on Chug. Author at Ranch.

"Mon, May 22 — (Bordeaux). At Ranch all day. Col. Royal's command did not move. Mail north. Letter from Mr. (W. G.) Bullock about freight. John Author here."

The "Col. Royal's command" in the above entry consisted of 15 companies of cavalry under Col. Wm. B. Royal and was an important segment of Gen Crook's May expedition. In Mr. Hunton's library is a copy of

"On the Border With Crook", which we are fortunate to have and which tells in detail the stirring story of those days and the men involved. This book was written by John G. Bourke who was Gen. Crook's aide, as previously recorded herein, and is fascinating reading in connection with Hunton's record. It records the killing of the Red Cloud mail carrier by a band of frustrated Indians who were out to ambush Crook but found his escort too strong to attack. So Mail Carrier Clark got it instead. Mr. Hunton made this notation on the flyleaf, "Captain Bourke, the author of this book, died June 8, 1896."

*"Tues. May 23 — (Enroute).
Started to Fetterman. Stopped at Phillips.
Nooned at Kents. Stopped at Stuarts.
Smily went with me to Horse Shoe. Johnson & Walker have cattle rounded up.*

*"Wed. May 24 — (Enroute).
Staid on Horse Shoe last night. Nooned
on Wagon Hound with Blivens & party.
Got to Fort (Fetterman) about sundown.
Telegraphed Mr. Bullock and Capt. Gillis.
Col. Evans command camped near
Milk Ranch.*

*"Thurs. May 25 — (Milk Ranch
on LaPrele). At Post (Fetterman) last
night. Evans' command come to Post and
crossed river. Some horses stampeded.
Went to Milk Ranch. Colin (Hunter)
branding beeves. Williams & McMillan
in with wood.*

"Fri, May 26 — (Milk Ranch). Williams, Smith & McMillan started to Med. Bow for freight. Went to Post. Telegram from Hall "Ed is dead". Ferry rope broke. Russell Richard come to Ranch with me. Expedition making much preparation to leave.

"Sat, May 27 — (Fort Fetterman). At Post today. Powell in with wood, took off racks and put on beds. Hear Far-nam was killed on Sydney road. Boat not in running order. Very dry and windy."

All men, teams and supplies of this large expedition Crook was assembling at Fetterman to move against the Sioux had to be ferried across the swollen Platte on a cable-boat for their march to the north, and the job of ferrying was a real one. Bourke paints a graphic picture of the scene in his book. Fifteen companies of the 2nd and 3rd Cavalry and five companies of the 4th and 9th Infantry were camped along the river with their 103 6-mule wagons and several hundred pack mules. Frank Guard, Louis Richaud and Baptiste (Big Bat) Pourier were the official guides.

War correspondents with the expedition included: Joseph Wasson representing the Philadelphia Press, New York Tribune and the San Francisco Alta California; Robert E. Strahorn for the Chicago Tribune, Denver Rocky Mountain News, Cheyenne Sun and Omaha Republican; John F. Finerty, Chicago Times;

T. B. MacMillan, Chicago *Inter-Ocean* and R. B. Davenport, New York *Herald*.

In those days, long before the great dams which now store and control the waters of the Platte were even thought of, that stream in spring time was indeed a river. Bourke records that the ferrymen worked to the point of exhaustion, mending their leaking boat and splicing the cable which broke several times a day.

Meanwhile, as Crook prepared to march north, the Indians behind him to the south, and especially along the Chug, were getting in some licks of their own. Pioneer ranchers stood sturdy, but alarmed:

RANCHERS APPEAL FOR ARMS

As Indians Swarm Between Fort Laramie
and Chugwater

"Cheyenne, May 27, 1876: Mr. Maxwell, proprietor of Dick Whalen's old ranch, telegraphed to this city Sunday for arms and ammunition because Indians are thick between Fort Laramie and Chugwater. Acting Governor French sent a number of needleguns and E. Nagle sent a big supply of powder and ball. Mr. Bard, proprietor of the Little Bear ranch, also called for weapons. But the Territorial arsenal is depleted of guns, and Governor French will be unable to fill any more requisitions."

GENERAL WARNS AGAINST AGGRESSIVE ACTION

Believes Peace With Sioux Still Possible

"Cheyenne, May 27, 1876: Gen. William Vandever, U.S. Indian Inspector, wired Secretary of Interior on May 24, "If the Military can be restrained to protecting settlers in the Back Hills and guarding the routes, the trouble will soon cease. Aggressive movements tend to incite the Sioux to War. Spotted Tail and Red Cloud want peace. They will accept fair terms and use their influence to bring others in."

But Vandever's advice was not followed and peace was not to be.

"Sun, May 28 — (Milk Ranch on LaPrele). Finished putting on wagon beds. (George) Powell, Lord, Ogg & (Nath) Williams started to Bow for freight, 9 teams. Went to Post P.M. Indians killing people on Sidney road. Ferry running well, rope arvd last night. Telegram from Mr. Bullock.

"Mon, May 29 — (Milk Ranch). Went to Post (Fetterman). (Crook's) Expedition left about 2 o'clock. Mail arrived.

"Tues, May 30 — (Milk Ranch). Went to Post. Colin (Hunter) hunting cattle. Letter from Gillis about freight.

Sent 3 sks potatoes by Wild. (W. E.) Hathaway laying over. Bill Fox & Colin (Hunter) found two Govt. horses. Fox found one other after night. Did not find cattle.

"Wed, May 31 — (Milk Ranch). At Ranch all day. Russell left. Wrote to Mr. Bullock, Capt. Gillis, Col. Ludington. "Tip", Colin & Fox hunting cattle. Hugas' & other mule trains from Bow."

Mr. Hunton's record of expenditures for May contains these three unusual items concerning the three brothers:

"Suit, \$35; Suit for Tom, \$31; Jim's burial expense \$310." He shows no payments from the government for this month, his only receipts of any consequence being \$200 from E. Tillotson and the same amount from Tom Mathews.

JUNE, 1876

"Thurs, June 1 — (Milk Ranch). Hunter & Fox hunting cattle. Went to Post (Fetterman). No news. Expedition trader arrived. Ice last night. Platte river raising fast. Hugas train unloaded.

"Fri, June 2 — (Fort Fetterman). At Post last night. Hunter & Fox out after cattle. Put in (Geo.) Powell's bid for hay 37 & 43. Tillotson bid on wood 8.56. Hugas train started to Cheyenne. Ice $\frac{1}{2}$ inch thick & icicles on water wagon 10 inches long. Platte still raising. Cold, dry, windy.

"Sat, June 3 — (Milk Ranch). Went to Post. Telegram from S & W. Omaha lowest bid on wood \$7.97, Tramping; Hay 39, Coad. Comdg. Officer wants couriers to go to Crook's Expedition. Ed Seminole and Jack will go for 400\$. Comdg. Off. refuses to give. Fox says he saw indian sign at mouth of Bed Tick. Did not find cattle. Borrowed book, "How He Won Her" of Co. "C".

"Sun, June 4 — (Milk Ranch). At Ranch all day. Read book. Cold, dry, dusty.

"Mon, June 5 — (Milk Ranch). At Ranch all day. Fixed wagon tongue and yoke staples. Boatman Harris & Corpl. Hanley (or Hauley) started to Gen. Crook with dispatches.

"Tues, June 6 — (Milk Ranch). Colin (Hunter) & (Bill) Fox started to look for cattle. Handled axes, assorted chains. George Harris come from (Medicine) Bow. At Post. Telegram from U. S. Deputy Marshall about Jules Seminole. Maj. Coats answered it. Heard that 8 companies 5th Cav. were enroute for the Agencies. Saw Speed (Stagner). He is looking badly, opinion recovery doubtful. Paid telegraph bill for month of May \$7.34."

Historian Coutant records that a man named George Harris was one of the few survivors of the "Bloody Trail Massacre" of original settlers on Horseshoe in 1868. Harris, wounded, lay in the brush all night watching the settlement burn and finally reached safety, somehow.

AN ANXIOUS FATHER

John Hunton kept one small packet of letters tied together with string. They are from various people on entirely unrelated subjects over a considerable period of time. Some are addressed to Hunton, some to other men, but apparently each was of some special significance or importance to him. One of these letters concerns his friend Speed (Stagner), whom he mentions in connection with many a deal and adventure, and who lies so grievously sick or wounded on June 6 that Hunton doubts his recovery. Speed was one of

Crook's trusted Scouts on the earlier ill fated expedition against the Sioux in March, '76. Apparently young Stagner left his home in Missouri during the early sixties and cut all family ties. Here is the letter:

"Dawn, Livingston County, Mo.,
Nov. 10, 1870.

Mr. Charles Miller,

Kind Sir I write you a few lines of inquiry concerning my son Speed Richmond Stagner. I heard from Mr. Ed Bramble that he seen him at Ft. Laramie, Dacota Ty. about two years ago. He has been gone about six years. He has never written home since he left. He was freighting at the time Bramble seen him. Please write as soon as you can conveniently and you will confer a great favor on his father.

JEFFERSON STAGNER"

We of course do not know if Mr. Miller or Mr. Hunton answered this letter, or whether Jefferson Stagner ever heard from or was reunited with his son — but we do have this further information from Mrs. Criss Cross Morton, daughter of the late George H. Cross:

"Speed Stagner was a brother-in-law of Little Bat Garnier's. One of his wives was a half-breed (presumably Lallee's sister), the other two were Indians, Sioux and Shoshone. Their offspring were numerous.

"My brother, (William H.) Bill Cross, of Douglas, now lives on the old Speed Stagner ranch on LaPrelle Creek. Stagner sold it to Emerson & Baker in 1877. Joe Kennedy later became the owner and my father bought it from him about 1919. Not many years ago Speed's old cabin was torn down. It did not have a nail in it — was held together with wooden pegs."

"Thurs, June 8 — (Milk Ranch). At Ranch all day fixing chute to corrall. Griffin here to see about cattle trade for Trabing paper. Smith, McMillan, Williams, Harris & others got in with freight.

"Fri, June 9 — (Milk Ranch). Went to Post (Fetterman). (Ed) Smith, (Nath) Williams, etc. unloaded freight Borrowed 600\$ of Tillotson. Heard from Laramie through Indian sources that Gen. Terry had had a fight with Indians, heavy loss on both sides. Williams, Smith, etc. started for 2nd trip of freight. Hunter got back with beef cattle.

"Sat, June 10 — Milk Ranch). At Ranch all day. Fixed branding iron 75 for Hunter. Am quite unwell. Billious. Heard Indians stole horses on Chug. Nice day.

"Sun, June 11 — (Milk Ranch). At Ranch all day. Hunter branded his cattle 75. Rained some last night.

"Mon, June 12 — (Milk Ranch).

Went to Post. Borrowed Speed's wagon and took it to Ranch. Quite sick. Dr. Gibson prescribed for me. May's train got to Fetterman.

"Tues, June 13 — (Milk Ranch). George Powell got to Ranch with train. Repaired Speed's wagon. Train went to Post and unloaded. Went to Post in wagon. Mail arrived.

"Wed, June 14 — (Ft. Fetterman). Staid at Post last night. Went to Ranch in wagon. Fixing to start to Chug. Train started to Med. Bow. Indians stole Stuart's horses on Cottonwood. Nice day.

"Thurs, June 15 — (Enroute to Bordeaux). Colin Hunter, Griffin & I started to Chug. Nooned on LaBonte. Saw Daily. Got to Horse Shoe before sundown. Met (Heck) Reel's & Lathrop's trains between Elk Horn & Horse Shoe.

"Fri, June 16 — (Bordeaux). Staid at J. & W.'s (Johnson & Walker) ranch last night. Johnson gone to roundup. Walker gone to Laramie plains. Fatty missing. Nooned on Laramie river. Stopped while at Phillips, he not at home. Got home about sundown. Men branding calves."

We must also thank Mrs. Morton for this word about "Fatty's" tragic fate:

"Fatty Stuart was a young cook, chore boy and general handy man at the

Johnson & Walker ranch when my father (the late George H. Cross) used to go there in 1876. One day that summer Fatty went to Fort Laramie for the mail and never returned. Bob Walker went to look for him, found his spurs, bits of his clothing and the body of the horse he had been riding, near where a large fire had burned. It was thought young Stuart might have been burned at the stake, but Bob Walker doubted that. The boy was a nephew of Rancher Stuart on Cottonwood who organized a group of men to go after the Indians and try to find Fatty and also the livestock they had stolen from Stuart's ranch (see June 14 entry). Stuart had so much Indian trouble and lost so much stock that he became disgusted and quit. Shortly after Fatty was killed when he opened his door one morning an Indian's bullet tore a hole in the casing just above his head. He told my father he thought they had a "hex" on him, sold out to Billy Bacon in the fall of 1876 and left the country."

"Sat, June 17 — (Bordeaux). Sam & Tom went to Laramie river after lime. Heard Scouts Bat etc were killed. Do not believe it. Think they went for Crows and that Crows were slow in coming or will not come at all. Mail went south. Colin Hunter went home. Owens went to Cheyenne. Wulfjen & Lane going to

roundup. Traded 2 calves to Wulfjen for horse, brand left thigh (C over B)."

But Bat Was Okay

In his book, "On the Border with Crook" Bourke records that about June 1 when Crook's expedition reached old Ft. Reno the scouts, Guard, Richard and "Big Bat", were sent out to learn what had become of a band of friendly Crow Indians who had promised to join Crook at or near Reno. The expedition then proceeded on to Clear Creek, Lake De Smet, old Fort Kearney and went into camp on Prairie Dog Creek where it joins the Tongue River.

What Was In Those Dispatches

On the 8th of June the dispatches from Fort Fetterman carried by "Boatman Harris & Corpl. Hanley (or Hauley)" (see June 5th entry) reached Crook and advised him all able bodied male Indians had left the Red Cloud Agency; that the 5th Cavalry was coming from Kansas to support his rear (see June 6th entry) and that more than a hundred Shoshone warriors were on their way from the Wind River reservation to join him.

Indians Attack

On June 9, while in camp on Tongue River, the expedition was attacked by a considerable force of Sioux and Cheyennes. When the attack had been driven off after some hard fighting Crook moved his command 17 miles to a new camp on Goose Creek, where it set-

tled down to await news from Big Bat and the other scouts.

Bourke says there was considerable apprehension lest they had been captured or killed, but on June 14 Scouts Gruard and Richaud showed up with a Crow Chief. They reported the Crows were at first reluctant to join a war against the Sioux but had finally been persuaded — and that Big Bat was following at a more leisurely pace with a body of Crow warriors.

That Wilderness Wireless

Somehow John Hunton, several hundred miles to the south at Bordeaux, knew of Bat's mission, was not too concerned about his safety and had reason to believe the Crows were reluctant to go to war (see June 17th entry). The information on which Hunton based these opinions must have come from those "Indian sources" to which he refers, since obviously he had not heard of Bat's safe return to Crook's expedition. This seems to indicate the red man had a system of communication through the wilderness which rivaled the white man's telegraph for speed and accuracy.

Bourke also writes in his book, "It was whispered that one of our teamsters was a woman, and no other than "Calamity Jane" . . . she had donned the raiment of the alleged rougher sex and was skinning mules with the best of them".

Here is what Mr. Hunton had to say concerning that uninhibited lady and his summa-

tion of her adventurous career, as written for and published in the *Fort Laramie Scout* shortly before his death:

— — —

MY RECOLLECTIONS OF CALAMITY JANE

— By John Hunton —

"About the time of the first appearance of Calamity Jane in this part of the country (meaning the Fort Laramie area), in the fall of 1873 E. Coffey and Cuny started a large trading outfit five miles west of Fort Laramie on the north side of the Laramie River, where they carried on quite an extensive business selling goods, running a saloon and general road ranch.

"In 1874 business got very slack with them and they decided to add new attractions, and for that purpose they constructed eight two-room cottages to be occupied by women. They sent to Omaha, Kansas City and other places and in a short time had their houses occupied by ten or more young women all of whom were known as sporting characters.

"Among this bunch was 'Calamity Jane' who was of the type generally given her by magazine writers and newspaper correspondents. Her achievements have been very greatly magnified by every writer I have ever read, for she was

among the commonest of her class. She seldom ever carried a rifle when riding horseback from place to place, and I do not think I ever saw her with both rifle and pistol. Her one redeeming trait was that she seldom spoke of what she had done or could do with gun or pistol. I have no recollection of ever seeing her shoot at any object but I have seen her fire her pistol into space.

"I am not sure when I first saw her, but I think it was in 1875, about the time Col. Dodge was getting ready to go to Jenny's Stockade. At that date my house was at Bordeaux, 27 miles from Fort Laramie on the Cheyenne road. My ranch was a general road ranch and place of entertainment for the traveling public, which gave me a good opportunity to see and hear all that was going on. Jane often stopped at my place, especially during the years of 1876, 1877 and 1878, while the Cheyenne and Black Hills stage coaches were in full swing, but I seldom ever saw her.

"She went out with the Dodge expedition in 1875 and remained with the expedition until detected when she was ordered to remain with the wagon train until the train returned to Fort Laramie, which was in a short time. The wagon master, old Jim Duncan, demurred at the

order, but saw to it that she went back to Fort Laramie.

"She then resumed her old life at the Cuny and Coffey ranch and other places of similar character at Fort Laramie and Fort Fetterman until the organization of General Crook's army in May, 1876, when she and three other women of the same character were smuggled out with the command and remained with it until found out and ordered back.

"After the battle of Rose Bud, in June 1876, Crook's army lay idle on Goose Creek and Tongue Rivers until joined by General Merritt with the 5th Cavalry in July. Soon after being joined by General Merritt, General Crook ordered his extra wagons to be sent back to Fort Fetterman with the sick and wounded, and I know Calamity Jane was with it for I saw her on the way up to John Brown Ranch the same day the train arrived in Fetterman. She soon left Fetterman and I do not think returned there that year, but she was in Fetterman in the spring of the year 1877 for a short time."

Note: In this same article Mr. Hunton also has something to say about Wild Bill Hickok (Hickok) and Calamity Jane's claim of friendship with him, which will be inserted at a later and more appropriate date.

"Sun, June 18 — (Bordeaux).
Nothing stirring at Ranch all day. Tom
& Sam got back with lime.

"Mon, June 19 — (Bordeaux).
Sam went to Laramie (river) and Phillips'. Looked around cattle some, Dan with me. Got Owens horse. Whalens ponies running here. Winterling passed to Cheyenne. Freighters passed, say Johnson & Walker's Fatty not found. (See June 16 entry). Mail north. Sheridan south. Men whitewashing.

"Tues, June 20 — (Bordeaux).
Men whitewashing. Mail south. Bettel-youn passed.

"Wed, June 21 — (Bordeaux).
Mail north. Sam returned from Laramie (river), did not see Phillips. He went to Phillips this P.M., Griffin with him. Bargained to keep Stage horses here.

"Thurs, June 22 — (Bordeaux)
Mail south. Stage stock stationed here today. Sam returned from Phillips with beef contracts signed by P. as bondsman.

"Fri, June 23 — (On roundup).
(F. M.) Phillips and Joe Morris (Phillips' foreman) come to ranch to go on roundup. Sam (Groves) & I went with them, also Griffin. Hot & dry.

"Sat, June 24 — (On roundup)
Staid at (Hi) Kelly's last night. Went to

Goodell's on Fox Creek. Kelly signed beef bonds. Mail south.

"Sun, June 25 — (On roundup). Staid at Goodells last night. Went to Old Denver Road where we joined roundup. I am finding but few cattle. Heard of Crook's fight on the 17th inst. Hot & dry."

The "Crook's fight on the 17th inst" to which Hunton refers above was the battle on the Rosebud River, tributary to the Yellowstone, where Crook with his Crow and Shoshone allies met Crazy Horse at the head of some 6,000 Sioux and Cheyenne warriors. It occurred just a week before the Custer massacre. Bourke credits our troops with a win but some authorities give the decision to Crazy Horse, who retired from the field with his dead and wounded while our forces likewise drew back to their wagon trains. General Crook's horse was shot from under him during the engagement. Not being there we offer no opinion as to who won. Perhaps it was a draw.

"Mon, June 26 — (Bordeaux). Staid with roundup last night. Left roundup. Kipp signed beef contract. Nooned at Portugee Phillips. Telegraphed "Missouri Jim" Powell gets 200 tons hay. Mail north. Got to ranch at sunset. Rode Kipp's mare. Hot & dry.

"Tues, June 27 — (Bordeaux). Winterling at Ranch. Killed calf. Went

to Owens. Phillips & roundup party got to Ranch and corralled their cattle.

"Wed, June 28 — (Bordeaux). Bought two horses of Phillips. Griffin bought four Phillips' mules and went after them. Went to Owens with qr. beef and borrowed twenty dollars of him. Col. Bacon with me Hass & Coad passed to Laramie. Mail north. (Hi) Kelly & family here. Give Phillips my notes 30 & 60 days for 175\$ each. Hot and very dry."

The last series of articles John Hunton wrote for the *Fort Laramie Scout* were published during 1927, the year before he died, under the heading, "Early Settlement of Laramie River Valley". In these articles Mr. Hunton gives the legal descriptions and dates that final proof was made on a number of earliest homesteads. We shall insert some of this information where appropriate. The Phillips referred to above was F. M. (Butcher) Phillips and in the September 1, 1927 issue of the *Scout* Mr. Hunton had this to say:

"In the summer and fall of 1871 Mr. F. M. Phillips constructed buildings and corrals on Sec. 23, Township 25, Range 67. This land was patented in 1875 by Mr. Phillips."

"Thurs, June 29 — (Bordeaux). Mail south. Rounding up cattle to go to Fetterman. Cut out beeves and cows for

Griffin & corralled them. Branded 9 calves.

"Fri, June 30 — (Bordeaux). Cattle broke corral and got out. Hunting them. Found all cattle and corralled them. Mail north. Large party of B. Hillers passed with 'Wild Bill'. Nice rain today."

The final paragraphs of Mr. Hunton's article on Calamity Jane, as previously stated, bring in J. H. "Wild Bill" Hicock (or Hickok) in connection with the above entry and also discuss Jane's claim to friendship with Hicock, as follows:

WILD BILL AND CALAMITY JANE (By John Hunton)

"I will now refer to J. J. 'Wild Bill' Hicock, whom I knew fairly well in 1874 and late in the year 1875, when he was making his home in Cheyenne. During that time I do not think he knew 'Calamity Jane', or had ever seen her.

"On June 30, 1876, 'Bill' and a party of men who were on their way to the Black Hills mines, traveling with a four horse team and wagon, camped about two miles south of my ranch. The next morning they passed my place and 'Bill' stopped long enough to say 'How'. He then said, 'So long Jack' and went away. ('Jack' is the nickname by which Hunton

was known in the early days). A few hours afterward Waddie S. Bacom, one of my men who had been out riding, came in and said, 'Mr. Hunton, I met a man down the road who said he was 'Wild Bill' and wanted you to go to the place he camped last night and get his cane, which he stuck in the ground at his head where he made his bed last night in the edge of a patch of bushes, and send it to him at Deadwood, by someone you can trust to deliver it to him. Be sure not to send it except by some mutual friend whom you both know, as he did not want to take any chance of losing it.' I sent the man for the cane and he brought it to me.

"In less than a month I heard of Bill's death. (He was assassinated at Deadwood by a stage driver, Jack McCaul, who was lynched for the deed by a mob, reputedly led by Calamity Jane.) I kept the cane until 1921 and then gave it to Miss Eunice G. Anderson, State Historian, to be deposited in the museum of the Wyoming Historical Society, where it is now deposited and can be seen.

"It will be seen from these circumstances that at the time of Bill's death Jane was in the hands of the military authorities."

JULY, 1876

"Sat, July 1 — (Enroute from Bordeaux to Fetterman). Started to Fetterman with cattle Tom Mathews, Kipp & Griffin with me. Working Griffin's mules to wagon. Nooned at Laramie bridge. Corralled at Kent's. Sam Groves come to river and went to Bullock place. Nice day."



CABIN BUILT BY W. G. BULLOCK
IN 1871

The "Bullock Place" in the above entry was the ranch of "Col." W. G. Bullock, one

of the earliest and best known in southeastern Wyoming. This ancient photograph was identified by Louie Wilde, son of Pioneer Joe Wilde, of Fort Laramie, as the original log cabin built by Mr. Bullock on the Laramie River. The dark spots on either side of the door and the end of the building were port holes. Mr. Wilde also identified the man on the mowing machine as Mac McColley.

"In the early spring of the year 1871 Mr. Wm. G. Bullock had some good log buildings and a corral erected on Sec. 7, Township 25, Range 65 . . . but the Indians were so annoying he moved all his stock to Bordeaux in the spring of 1872. As there were no other ranches or cattle on the Laramie river at that time, the hay on Bullock's Ranch was cut and hauled to Bordeaux for two years and for four years was sold at Fort Laramie.

"The buildings on the Bullock Ranch were covered with three-inch plank that had been used for flooring in the first wagon bridge constructed across the Laramie River at the Fort in 1853. The planks were laid on stringers or joists and then covered with earth. All the buildings have been torn down or moved away except the main log building . . . it shows the port holes for shooting through in case of attack by Indians and shows some of the lumber made by the first saw mill located at Fort Laramie seventy-two years

ago — the plank supporting the earth roof." — John Hunton in the *Scout*, June 16, 1927.

Note; That would date establishment of the first saw mill at Fort Laramie in 1855, or more than 100 years ago at this writing.

"Sun, July 2 — (Enroute to Fetterman). Staid at Kent's last night. Went on to Cottonwood, stoped for the day. Stuart & Harwood got here from cattle hunt about Casper. Corralled cattle for the night.

"Mon, July 3 — (Enroute). Went on to Horse Shoe. Harwood joined my party and helped drive cattle. Bought 20 cows of Johnson & Walker and gathered and put them in herd. Also bought 2 work oxen. Corralled cattle for night.

In his accounts for July, 1876, Mr. Hunton shows that on the 12th of the month he paid Johnson & Walker \$400. On the assumption that this payment was for the 20 cows listed above it would peg the price at \$20 per head.

"Tues, July 4 — (Enroute). Started early. Nooned on Elk Horn (Spring Creek) got to Wagon Hound before sundown.

"Wed, July 5 — (Milk Ranch on LaPrele). Herded cattle last night. I rode on to Milk Ranch at day break, got there before (John) Boyd and Fox got up.

Cattle got to ranch all right. Indians attacked party on SaBille.

By "SaBille" our chronicler probably refers to what is now called Sybille Creek, a tributary of the Laramie River. Mr. Hunton wrote a short history of Old Fort Laramie which was published serially in the *Fort Laramie Scout*, starting, January 28, 1926, and later put out in pamphlet form by that newspaper. In it he wrote:

"Legend says: That about 1815 or 1816 a man named LaRamie appeared in the country with a small band of trappers and engaged in trapping on the river and its tributaries and finally located at what is now the Old Fort. That about 1819 or 1820 he went up the river in the fall of the year to trap and was never seen again.

"It was subsequently learned through the Arapaho Indians that he was killed by them and his body put under the ice in a beaver dam near the mouth of Sybil Creek. After that time the river was called Laramie's River and the peak Laramie's Mountain. All places and things called Laramie took the name the same way."

"Thurs, July 6 — (Milk Ranch on LaPrele). Branded 20 cows "75". Mail south. Louis Richard (Reshaw) come to ranch, no scouts with. Heard of Custer Massacre. Richard & party started to Crook. Went to Post (Fetterman)."

Bourke, it will be recalled, lists "Louis Richaud" as one of Crook's official and trusted scouts. There is every reason to assume, we believe, that Louis Reshaw, Louis Richard and Louis Richaud were one and the same man — a half breed who fought with and was loyal to the whites.

*"Fri, July 7 — (Fort Fetterman).
At Post last night. Picked out place for slaughter house. (George) Powell in with poles and unloaded. Custer Massacre confirmed. Ed Seminole went out with Dispatches.*

*"Sat, July 8 — (Fort Fetterman).
Borrowed spades, commenced on slaughter house. Carried Speed (Stagner) wagon home. Found him suffering from his wound. (Nath) Williams & party train in, unloaded. Give (W. E.) Hathaway note for 575\$. Give Griffin note for 698.63.*

*"Sun, July 9 — (Milk Ranch).
Went to Post. Powell and others repairing wagons with Tally the Blacksmith.*

*"Mon, July 10 — (Milk Ranch).
(Nath) Williams, McMillan & others started with teams to Med. Bow. (Sam) Groves' & John Boyd teams with them. Working some of my cattle in Sam's teams. Went to Post. Kipp & Fox working on slaughter house.*

The following episode gives a better picture of the man John Boyd and other individ-

uals mentioned from time to time in this journal:

“In the winter of 1869 and 1870 Ben Mills, who had a small herd of stock cattle on the Laramie River, and had suffered heavily from Indian depredations, moved the herd to Chugwater Creek, and in the early summer the herders, David Cottier, John Boyd and William Aug, established their camp at the north mouth of Richard's (Reshaw) Creek. They lived in a tent and had three horses with which they did all the herding and team work. One morning in April, 1870, Mr. Cottier took the team and wagon and went to Fort Laramie for supplies, leaving the one horse with Boyd and Aug. They had four milk cows and kept the calves confined in a small pen to entice the cows to come up at night. After Cottier left for the Fort they (Boyd and Aug) milked the cows and turned them out of the pen. They then took their rifles and walked to the top of some hills nearby to see if the cattle were much scattered. They thought they were away from the camp about four hours or more.

“After getting back to camp, feeling very tired, they went into the tent and pulled off their boots to rest and ease their feet and were lying down on their beds, which were buffalo robes spread on the ground, when a volley was fired by In-

dians through the tent. Each man grabbed his rifle and a cartridge belt and dashed out of the tent through the willows and into Chugwater Creek. As they had been lying flat on the ground, they were fortunately not touched by the bullets (twelve of them) fired by the Indians. They were then in the Chugwater Creek barefooted and no coats, four miles from Bordeaux and eight miles below Chugwater station. As the Indians saw them go into the willows with their rifles, they knew it would be dangerous to expose themselves.

"Boyd had been a soldier and had campaigned in Florida and Oregon against Indians and had been twice wounded by arrows, so was not easily excited. After deliberating a short time he and Aug decided it would be safest to go up the creek, as the banks of the creek were much higher and there was more timber than there was down stream. They took time and great care. The Indians discovered them in the creek below Chimney Rock and fired several shots at them again, about a mile above Chimney Rock, they were shot at but not hit. Boyd and Aug did not fire a shot.

"There was a camp of white men and half-breeds at the point of rocks two miles below Chugwater station, which Boyd and Aug reached before dark, and

were well cared for there. The next day they and a party of men went to their camp and found the Indians had killed the four cows and four calves and burned the tent and everything connected with the camp." — John Hunton, in the *Scout*, June 16, 1927.

"*Tues, July 11 — (Milk Ranch on LaPrele). Kipp & Fox working on slaughter house. Went to Post (Fetterman), staid all day. Mail arrived. Newspapers have particulars of Custer Massacre. Borrowed \$40.62 of Tillotson. Paid Tom Boine.*"

Mr. Hunton does not seem to have been overcome with emotion by the Custer Massacre. It was not closely connected with his immediate daily life and business world. But for most Americans that event became the best known and most firmly fixed episode of western Indian warfare. Perhaps that was due in considerable measure to the advertising enterprise of one of the nation's leading brewery concerns of that day, and of this, which took the purely imaginative and highly dramatic painting of "Custer's Last Stand", and made huge reprints of it which were framed and hung in most American saloons. After a given number of drinks with that exciting and gory piece of art confronting one across the bar, the impression was apt to be deep and lasting. It must have sold a lot of beer.

"*Wed, July 12 — (Milk Ranch).*

Went to Speeds (Stagner) with (George) Powell. Borrowed his light Champion. Bargained with (Jim) Harris for his horses to cut hay at 40\$ per month. Powell bargained with Griffin for his team. Bought machine and rakes of Tillotson and Speed for 125\$. Telegraphed Haas for extra fixtures for machines.

"Thurs, July 13 — (Milk Ranch). Powell started to Med. Bow with Griffin's wagon. Walpole left. Kipp doing little work on slaughter house. Went to Post (Fetterman). Nothing doing. Telegraphed Nagle for provisions.

"Sat, July 15 — (Fort Fetterman). At Post last night. Ed Seminole come in 9 o'clock this morning from Crook's camp with dispatches. Crook lying on Goose Creek inactive. Indians in large numbers hovering near him. Indians all left Red Cloud. Fifth Cavalry to reinforce Crook. Telegraph line down until night. Griffin took machine & rake to Ranch."

Bourke takes a chapter in his book to tell about Crook's "laying on Goose Creek inactive", during the later part of June, July and early August, waiting for reinforcements, with his several thousand men and Indian allies and hundreds of horses and mules.

From July 1 to the 4th Crook, with a party of his officers and several newspaper correspondents, scaled the Big Horns to a height of "12,000 feet . . . far above timber line . . .

the region of perpetual snow . . . where great masses of snow and ice were slowly yielding to the assaults of summer sun on the flanks of Cloud Peak." They lived on fresh venison, mountain sheep and trout, slept on mattresses of pine branches, could see the Wind River Range, "one hundred and thirty miles to the west" — but no sign of the anxiously awaited reinforcements.

A party of soldiers, scouts and newspaper men, led by Guard and "Big Bat", went out to spy on the Sioux. They were discovered and attacked, their horses killed, and fled back to camp on foot, an adventure so harrowing that Bourke records two of the party were "completely crazy" on arrival — thought they had been captured and were being tortured by the Sioux, ran off and hid in the rocks, had to be brought in by force. Correspondent John F. Finerty, one of the party, later wrote about it in his book, "War-Path and Bivouac".

As for the soldiers — they hunted and fished mostly, in their spare time. Bourke estimated they caught a total of more than 15,000 trout, brags he caught the biggest one, a three-pounder, and says grasshoppers were the bait. Claims those uncivilized trout merely flipped their fins at man-made flies. The men also raced horses and gambled, among themselves and with their Indian allies. But most of the time they were kept busy by "constant moving of camp . . . kept in practice in taking down and putting up tents, saddling

and unsaddling . . . packing and unpacking horses . . . with a due regard for hygiene . . . and, above all, were kept occupied." Different generations of soldiers come and go but in some ways the army does not change.

On July 10 Scout Richard and Ben Arnold reached Crook (see July 6 entry) with word of the Custer massacre. That same day the Sioux undertook to burn him out with grass fires. The camp was saved only by heavy rains in the nick of time. But the Indians continued to harass Crook for several weeks and destroyed pasture with their fires over an area Bourke estimates as "not less than 100 miles each way". And on certain nights the Shoshones, under the great chief Washakie, who had joined them in camp, worshiped the moon with song.

*"Sun, July 16 — (Fort Fetterman).
At Post last night. Heard 5th Cavalry
were to intercept Red Cloud Indians and
drive them back to Agency. (Jim) Har-
wood and soldier started to Crook with
dispatches. Went to Ranch. Fixed mow-
ers.*

*"Wed, July 19 — (Milk Ranch).
Went to Post with (John) Boyd. 8 P.M.
heard that 5th Cavalry had forced Indians
who had left Red Cloud Agency to return
to it. Heard that Bill Cody (Buffalo
Bill) killed two Indians.*

*"Thurs, July 20 — (Fort Fetter-
man). Mail south. Courier from Crook's*

camp. Staid at Post last night. Heard that recruits were enroute to this Post. Sam Groves arrived from Chug and George Powell from Med. Bow with machine fixtures and some grub. Went to Ranch and worked on mgchines all P. M. Telegraphed Bullock about Tradership. Surgeons visited Speed (Stagner). Borrowed two dollars of Tillotson and sent for machine fixtures and hay forks. Very hot and dry.

"Fri, July 21 — (Milk Ranch). Went to Post with Powell and repaired pieces of mower. Borrowed harness of Q.M. Went to Ranch and started hay cutting outfit at 4 P.M. to Box Elder. Others making hay racks.

"Sat, July 22 — (Milk Ranch). Balanced accounts with Powell. Went to Post. Courier Graves who left Crook's camp on the 16th arrived, reports seeing large Indian Trail on Powder River. Sam (Groves) come from Box Elder and reports no hay. McMillan in with train. Broke (John) Boyd's wagon.

"Sun, July 23 — (On Deer Creek). Train unloading freight. Fixed few pieces for mowers. Lt. Seton, Murphy and recruits arrived. Lathrop's train arrived with Govt. stores. Went with Sam Groves to Deer Creek with hay outfit. Hay scarce. John Otten went to Box Elder for hay with one wagon.

"Mon. July 24 — (Fort Fetterman). Looked for hay at mouth of Deer Creek and down the Platte, found little on Deer Creek; none on Platte. Went to Post. Recruits camped on island. Lathrop's bull train unloaded. Rained this P. M.

"Tues. July 25 — (Fort Fetterman). Finished wheel for slaughter house. Put hay racks on and fixed to go for hay. McMillan etc. started to Bow for freight. Recd orders to kill beef for Merritt, killed three, and order to have 20 head to drive.

"Wed. July 26 — (Fort Fetterman). Turned over 20 head to Col Merritt, average wt. of steers 625. Went to Camp on Sage Creek to get vouchers of 1250\$ for beef. Powell started with teams for hay. Courier arrived from General Crook. Recd three letters and checks from Capt. Gillis. Answered.

Either Mr. Hunton's hand slipped when he wrote "Col" Merritt above, or he was not up-to-date on his military rank, for it must have been "General" Merritt to whom he delivered those three dressed and 20 live steers (average weight 625 pounds) on July 25 & 26 at Merritt's camp on Sage Creek, and for which he received a voucher for \$1250. (That figures about 8.7 cents a pound for his cattle.)

History records that General Merritt was then on his way with ten companies of the

Fifth Cavalry, 76 recruits for the 2nd and 3rd regiments, 60 extra horses and a supply of ammunition, to reinforce General Crook. Their forces joined on Goose Creek August 3rd.

Crook's aide, Lt. Bourke, tells in his book how he and Big Bat traveled over the "scorched earth" left by the Sioux to meet General Merritt and his command: "The flames of prairie fires had parched and disfigured the country . . . Big Bat took me on a short cut across a petty affluent of Goose, which had been full of running water but was now dry as a bone, choked with ashes and dust, the cottonwoods along its bank on fire, and every sign that its current had been dried up by the intense heat of the flames . . . The Sioux had also set fire to the timber in the Big Horns, and at night the sight was a beautiful one of the great line of the foothills depicted in a tracery of gold." Bourke adds. "At the head of the scouts with Merritt rode William F. Cody." (See July 19 entry).

"Thurs. July 27 — (Fort Fetterman). Staid at Sutler Store last night. Tillotson started east. Cpts. Paine and Price Co's. arrived and went on to join Merritt. Daily in Post for mail. Hay party returned from Deer Creek. Commenced staying in the store.

"Sat, July 29 — (Fort Fetterman). Made lot bolts for machines. Hay scarce

below. No news. "Capt Jack", newspaper man, arrived.

"Mon, July 31 — (Fort Fetterman). Hay train arrived but did not weigh. Chief Q.M. wants Powell to take all of the 500 tons. P. declines. Hecht train arrived with freight. Kipp started to Med. Bow. Hired (W. E.) Hathaway to work in his place."

July was quite a month for Hunton, financially at least. He received a total of \$3,695.66 from his business with Uncle Sam: \$2,455.66 in five payments from Capt. Gillis in addition to \$1250 from Gen. Merritt for 23 beeves.

He also shows receipts of \$875.87 from E. Tillotson to whom he paid \$1725.95. Mr. Tillotson, Ft. Fetterman business man and saloon keeper, undoubtedly acted as Mr. Hunton's banker. He turned over many of his government vouchers to Tillotson and apparently drew on him for funds at will.

His other expenditures during the month included: to Wm. McLaughlin \$40, Tom Boine \$50.62, Noel Seminole \$10,* Johnson & Walker \$400, H. Hass for machine "fixtures" \$50, E. Nagle \$290, McMillan \$39 and Kipp \$20. But it was a good money month, anyway you figure.

AUGUST. 1876

"Tues, Aug 1 — (Fort Fetterman). Weighed and unloaded hay, contract unsettled. Powell declined (to take all 500 tons) in writing. Mail arrived, Maj. Balcorub (?) U. S. Marshall with it to summon witnesses vs Brown. (Geo.) Powell started below with cutting outfit.

"Wed, Aug 2 — (Fort Fetterman). Wrote Mother, Bullock, Tom Hunton, Capt. Gillis. Courier Graves started to Crook 5 P.M., Capt. Jack (newspaper man) with him. Train went for hay. 9 1/2 P.M. Powell & Groves come to Post and reported Indians had attacked (Heck) Reel's train near Elk Horn and killed Wagon Master Trossell (Throstle) and wounded one teamster, killed 10 oxen, 4 horses and burned three wagons yesterday about 4 P.M. Indians stole 48 horses on Horse Shoe and Cottonwood. Hot and dry."

"Thurs. Aug 3 — (Fort Fetterman). Powell & party brought Trossell's (Throstle's) body to Post and the wounded man. Buried Trossell in cemetery. Powell will disband hay party for fear of Indians. Sent 50\$ for saddle by mail carrier."

The wounded man referred to above may have been Sylvester (Ves) Sherman, a well known bull whacker of the day, but it is more

probable that he was a teamster called Irish Pete. Sherman was in this fight, was wounded and lived to tell the tale. His vivid account of the attack is quoted at length in Mrs. Trer-



WAGONMASTER GEORGE THROSTLE

Killed August 2, 1876 In Indian Attack
on Heck Reel's Bull Freight Train
Near Elk Horn

*(Photo Courtesy Mrs. Art Gobble,
Lingle, Wyoming)*

holm's "Footprints on the Frontier." Here are the highlights of it:

Throstle and Sherman had ridden out in advance of the bull train, after it reached the top of Elkhorn hill, to take a look at the road ahead, when a large party of Indians swooped on them from a draw, shooting as they came. Three bullets struck Throstle and he fell. One bullet struck Sherman, but he stayed on his horse and raced safely back to the train. He states the Indians wounded another man, Irish Pete, shot him through the leg as they circled the wagons, screaming and firing. Sherman treats his own wound lightly.

Most of the train quickly "corraled", the teamsters returning the Indians' fire with their six shooters. Rather carelessly, it would seem, their rifles were buried under 5,000 pounds of flour in one of the wagons. The men pitched off the sacks of flour, piled them into breast-works, got their rifles into action and after a few rounds the Indians retired beyond range.

One wagon had been abandoned a few hundred yards from the "corral". It was loaded with 10,000 pounds of bacon and 40 kegs of beer. After dark the Indians set the bacon on fire. It blazed high and lighted up the area, causing the beleaguered train to get set for a night attack which did not come for some unknown reason, and when daylight came the Indians were gone.

Next morning Throstle's body was recovered. The savages had taken his scalp, cut

out his heart and stolen his clothing. The remains were laid on top of a load of groceries and covered with a tarpaulin, and what was left of the train limped on toward Fort Fetterman.

On the road they met two cowpunchers and told them of the fight. Sherman says the cowboys were skeptical and told him they had seen no sign of Indians in the area — so he jerked the tarp from Throstle's corpse for them to see. One look and "they turned and rode for Fort Fetterman and the last we saw of them they were riding like jockeys on the last quarter in a mile race."

In the original serial publication of this manuscript we hazarded the guess that those two cowpunchers who rode toward Fetterman "like jockeys" after viewing Throstle's grisly remains were probably George Powell and Sam Groves (see August 2 entry). But Mrs. Criss Cross Morton, of Oakland, California, tells us this was a bad guess and proves her point as follows:

"My father (the late George H. Cross) and some of the boys had started to Johnson & Walkers and met Ves Sherman and his crew when they were hitching up to start out again (after the fight). They didn't go on to Johnson & Walkers but stayed with Ves Sherman and rode along with the bull train. Two horseback riders came along and father said they were strangers to the LaBonte boys and

worked around Ft. Fetterman and were new comers he thought. Anyway, when one of the boys pulled back the tarp and showed them George Throstle's mutilated body, 'they rode off like jockeys' for Ft. Fetterman, Father went to tell George Powell at his camp on Wagonhound and Powell hitched up his (buckboard) Dearborn and went for George Throstle's body and took it to Fetterman . . . and father attended the funeral. He had known Throstle before and also Ves Sherman and his brother in Colorado.

"George Powell was an old time freighter, also Sam Groves. They would not have 'loped off like jockeys'. Both were known to my father and the other boys at LaBonte Ranch. Father wrote up that (original story of the fight) as Ves Sherman gave it to him. The original manuscript says, 'Two strangers came up on horseback. They asked them if they had seen any Indians. They said they never had & didn't think there were any in the country.' "

Ves Sherman is also credited with operating the first "hotel" in Guernsey. It was called the "Big Bed Room" — a long hall, lined with cots. Not a ladies' hostelry, we assume.

*"Fri, Aug 4 — (Fort Fetterman).
John Ottens started with train to Deer
Creek for hay. Escort come from LaBon-*

te, say Daily pursued Indians at Platte, killed and captured ponies. Custer City mail attacked by Indians. Horses stolen from Chug Springs by Indians.

"Sat, Aug 5 — (Fort Fetterman). Indians seen on Sabille this morning. Reel's train got in, telegraphed him.

"Sun, Aug 6 — (Fort Fetterman). Speed (Stagner) teams come in with Tillotson's goods & unloaded. No Indians heard from today.

"Mon, Aug 7 — (Fort Fetterman). No Indian news. Reel's train unloaded and drew guns. Telegraphed Reel. Lathrop & McMillan, Smith etc got in with trains. (John) Otten with 5 hay teams in, broke one wagon and had to leave hay. Dry & hot.

"Tues, Aug 8 — (Fort Fetterman). Nath Williams and (John) Boyd started to Laramie City. Athrop's (probably Lathrop's) train unloaded. 100 Indians reported going toward Chug from Agencies. Courier arrived from Crook who left there on the 4th Inst. Crook's command were to start after Indians on 5th.

"Wed, Aug 9 — (Fort Fetterman). Mail arrived. Hay train laying over on account of high wind. Burkett, Arnold and others in from Crook's command.

"Thurs, Aug 10 — (Enroute to Chug). Unloading hay. Borrowed gun of Capt. Coats. Went to Milk Ranch.

Started to Chug with Burkett, Mills & Sam Groves. (George) Powell started to make hay on the Platte at Bridger's Ferry. Escort with him.

"Fri, Aug 11 — (Enroute to Chug). Staid last night with hay party on Wag-on Hound. Went by Dailey's. Nooned at J & W's (Johnson & Walkers).

"Sat, Aug 12 — (Bordeaux). Staid on Cottonwood last night. Nooned at Bridge with (Heck) Reel's train. Got to Ranch 5 P.M. Heard Wild Bill (Hickok) was killed. Indians chased soldiers into Swan's Ranch, large party Indians reported.

"Sun, Aug 13 — (Bordeaux). Daily passed with beeves going to Cheyenne. Tom (Hunton) & Sam (Groves) went to Laramie. Fogelson and other Black Hillers passed north. Heard of the yesterday Indian excitement by Matt Farly to-night.

"Mon, Aug 14 — (Bordeaux). Making hay rack and setting tire on wagon. Hauled load hay for Stage Stock. Tom & Sam returned. No news.

"Tues, Aug 15 — (Bordeaux). (Horseshoe) Johnson here to breakfast, he is going to Cheyenne on Coach. Herd passed. McUlvane's bull outfit going for hay.

"Wed, Aug 16 — (Bordeaux). Went to (Hi) Kelly's. Paid Colin Hunter

\$400. C. (Charley) Clay's bull outfit started for hay, so did Hunter & Abbott's. Telegram from (L. P.) Justy saying blacksmith had come. Kelly went home with me to go to Box Elder roundup.

"Thurs, Aug 17 — (On Round-up). Kelly and I went to C. Coffee's to roundup. Rounded up and corralled cat-ale. Got few of mine and F.M.P.'s (Phillips').

"Fri, Aug 18 — (Bordeaux). Staid at Coffee's last night. Made another roundup and got few more cattle. Drove them home and branded the calves. Branded 3 calves for F.M.P. Hands hauling hay.

"Sun, Aug 20 — (Bullock Place). Sam (Groves) & I went to Bullock place to cut hay.

"Mon, Aug 21 — (Fort Laramie). Sam cutting hay. Went to Post. Sent my horse back to Bullock place by A. Bettelyoun. Stage arrived. Telegram from Kipp wanting beef. Krous & Vander-shir Companies of 14th Inftry arrived at Fort Laramie. Bought 5 Calico dresses, 2 pr. Hose for Lallee."

"In 1872 or 1873 Amos Bettelyoun filed on the W $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ and E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 16, Township 25, Range 66 W, on which he made cash final proof July 20, 1874." — John Hunton in the *Fort Laramie Scout*, September 1, 1927.

*"Tues, Aug 22 — (Bordeaux).
Staid at Post (Fort Laramie) last night.
Went to Ranch (Bordeaux) on Coach.
Hauling hay. Joe Mason arrived from
Blk. Hills. Johnson, Joe Morris & wife
arvd.*

*"Wed, Aug 23 — (Bordeaux).
Traded the Wulfjen horse to (Horseshoe)
Johnson for Black Horse. Daily passed,
arranged with him to take beef to Fetter-
man. Two of (T. A.) Kent's men staid
all night with cattle. Hauled one load
hay. Mail north, letter from (George)
Powell."*

To make you a little better acquainted with Wulfjen and Horseshoe Johnson: "In 1872 . . . Wulfjen and Webb started the Mule Shoe ranch with about 2500 head of Texas cattle . . . on Sybille creek . . . and Chugwater Creek (near) where Slater now stands.

"Johnson and Walker put cattle — 3000 head — on Horseshoe Creek at the Fetterman crossing in 1874, and in 1877 they moved their herd and outfit to where Chris Huff now lives. They had three herders killed by Indians during their stay on Horseshoe Creek." — John Hunton in the *Fort Laramie Scout* June 9, 1927.

Note: "Fatty" Stuart was one of those hapless herders, see June 16. and 19 entries.

*"Thurs, Aug 24 — (Bordeaux).
Rounded up cattle and branded 20 calves.
Sold Hunter and Abbott 2 bull calves at*

\$40. Surveyor Blackstone arrived with Abbott. Maj. Glafcke (?) here tonight. Kent's men here tonight. Bargained with Stage Co. to pasture their horses.

"Fri, Aug 25 — (Bullock Place). Finished hay here. Laid out short ditch opposite the house. Mr. (W. G.) Bullock, Blackstone, (Nath) Williams and myself went to Bullock place on Laramie (river) to survey. Sam (Groves) getting along well with hay.

"Sat, Aug 26 — Surveyed ditch for Bullock place. Nice day.

"Sun, Aug 27 — Surveyed Bullock and Sam Groves' places and leveled ditch for Groves.

"Mon, Aug 28 (Bordeaux). Finished survey on Bullock place and leveling ditch for Sam. 2 P.M. went to Ranch with Mr. Blackstone in light wagon. worked "Monte" and "Keno". Mr. Bullock remained on Laramie (river) with Sam (Groves) and (Nath) Williams. Stage Line Blacksmith here."

The above entries are the first reference to surveying that we find in Mr. Hunton's journal, but it is an activity that will occupy much of his time and attention in the years to follow. That ancient survey of an irrigation ditch for the Bullock place was probably in Sec 7, T. 25, R 65 W of the 6th P.M. (see notation following July 1 entry) and may have been the first survey ever made for irrigation

from the Laramie River, but on that point we are not certain.

*"Tues, Aug 29 — (Bordeaux).
Leveled for ditch. (Hi) Kelly passed to Fort (Laramie). Mail south. Few Blk Hillers both ways. 9 P.M. Joe Kelly's man, borrowed horse "Keno" to go to Post (Fort Laramie) for Kelly whose child died today. Mich Seminole here with woman.*

*"Wed, Aug 30 — (Bordeaux).
Kelly passed home, breakfasted here. Leveled ditch on east side Creek. Surveyed land. Squaws went to Kelly's. Mail north Stage Company's blacksmith left. Indians stole Stuart & Morris's horses. Nice day.*

*"Thurs, Aug 31 — (Bordeaux).
Surveyed 40 acres about bridge. Surveyor Blackstone left on Coach. Coad on coach. Cut tumor out of (saddle horse) Monte's back. Many Black Hillers passing both ways. B. Mills' Squaw passed."*

The Coad Ranch, owned by Mark and John Coad and known as the C-12 Outfit, was a big one — reportedly sold at one time for \$750,000.

Mr. Hunton's accounts for August, 1876, show that he paid Surveyor Blackstone \$50 for his help on those early irrigation surveys of the Laramie River valley.

SEPTEMBER, 1876

"Sat, Sept 2 — (Bordeaux). Wrote to Gen. Kemper about College script land and to Commissioner of land office about Stage Co. grants. Coach north with Indian Commission. Stuart here to dinner.

"Mon, Sept 4 — (Bordeaux). Made gun sight. (Col.) Bacon, (W. G.) Bullock and Skew Johnson come to ranch. Mail north. Collins going to Cheyenne, give him 30\$ to buy suit and cotton cloth. Recd 10 sacks flour of Joe Mason at \$3.25 per sk. Paid the freighter \$10.00. Mitch Seminole here.

"Tues, Sept 5 — (Bordeaux). Mail south. Doing nothing. Killed beef. Heard American Horse killed "Sioux Jim". Cavalry and Infantry recruits passed for 4th Cav. & 9th Infy.

"Fri, Sept 8 — (Bullock Place). Fixing to start to Fetterman. Mail north. Letter from (Hi) Kelly offering to sell me beeves. 3 P.M. Col. Bacon & I started to Fort riding Bill & Jim horses. Dutch Williams sick at Bullock place. Monroe come to Bullock place with sore eyes, said Indians stole Tom Haynes' mules on 6th Inst.

"Sat, Sept 9 — (Bordeaux). We staid at Bullock place last night. Nooned at Phillips. Went on to Kent's Ranch and heard Stuart and others were out after

Indians and would not be back for several days. Concluded to go back and buy Kelly's cattle. Got to Ranch at dark.

"Sun, Sept 10 — (Hi Kelly's Ranch). Went to Kelly's and bargained with him for 100 picked steers at 30\$ per head. Kelly and I agreed to bid on beef for Crook's Goose Creek Camp at 13-90/100 cents pr lb. on block and ten cents on hoof. Telegraphed Fetterman for escort.

"Mon, Sept 11 — Staid at Kelly's last night. Gathering cattle on Chug above Kelly's. Got but few beeves. Coffee & Bro. joined us at Kelly's this evening. Col. Bacon come with my horse. Carpenter around buying cattle.

"Tues, Sept 12 — Gathered cattle on Richard Creek above the forks. Got nice lot beeves.

"Wed, Sept 13 — Gathered cattle on Richard Creek below the forks, and on Chug. Got nice lot beeves.

"Thurs, Sept 14 — (Bordeaux). Cut out steers I bought (from Hi Kelly) and bought 31 cows at 20\$ per head. Started to Ranch with beef herd P.M. and got there and corraled at dark. Two Kelly's men and Ed Smith helping to drive.

"Fri, Sept 15 — (Bordeaux). Running beef herd in pasture and rounding up the country at head of Dry Creek. Got

six nice beeves and some cows and calves. Kelly come to ranch.

"Sat, Sept 16 — (F. M. Phillips' Ranch). Counted cattle and started to Fetterman. Gen. Sheridan passed to Laramie. Charly Clay went to Laramie. Sam Groves went to Bullock place with light wagon after our bedding. Got to F. M. Phillips and corralled cattle about dark. All hands stoped with P."

Mr. Hunton frequently notes the passage of military and other personnel through Bordeaux to "Laramie". It is not always clear whether he means they passed to the Laramie River or to Fort Laramie, but in such entries he definitely is not referring to the present university city of Laramie which he is always careful to designate as "Laramie City".

"Sun, Sept 17 — (Joe Morris Ranch). Branded 10 beef steers SO on the left side and H on the right hip. Also branded 32 cows in the same way. Escort of three soldiers and one teamster joined us here. Heard Crook had fight and killed few Indians. Left Phillips' with herd and went as far as Joe Morris's."

We have heard that when Mr. Hunton sold cattle branded "S O" to another rancher it was his practice during a certain period to "vent" this brand by burning "L D" on the animal's hide to the right of the original brand, thus making the vented brand read "SOLD".

"Mon, Sept 18 — (Stuart's houses

on Cottonwood). Corralled cattle and staid at Joe Morris's last night. Hay for horses and meals for self and men. Got to Cottonwood about noon. Went into camp in Stuart's houses. One cow calved last night.

"Tues, Sept 19 — (Johnson & Walker Ranch). Staid on Cottonwood last night. Corralled cattle. Got to Johnson and Walker's at noon. Walker gone to Fetterman. No one at home but Mrs. W. & one man.

"Wed, Sept 20 — (Camp between Wagon Hound and LaBonte). Staid at J & W's last night, corralled cattle. Telegraph wire broken on LaBonte Hill by Indians, large trail of horses. Got to LaBonte at 3 P.M. Camped for night on hill between Wagon Hound & LaBonte. Held cattle all night. Col. Bacon and I held them til midnight. Sam & Smith til day. Lost roan speckled cow, "H" on left hip, "S O" on side. She left her calf.

"Thurs, Sept 21 — (Milk Ranch on LaPrele.) Breakfasted on Bed Tick. Large Govt. train, Crook's transportation, passed to Ft. Laramie. Got to Ranch at 3 o'clock P.M. Everything all right. Daily had brought up 20 beef cows. Powell here but going down Platte to cut hay. (John) Otten's train unloading. Went to Post (Fetterman). Williams and

soldiers went out after horse thieves. No news of importance.

"Fri, Sept 22 — (Fort Fetterman). Williams & soldiers come in with three supposed horse thieves and 21 horses. At Post last night.

"Sat, Sept 23 — (Fort Fetterman). At Post last night. Otten's train went down Platte with Powell for hay. Small escort with them. Col. Chambers arrived from Crook's Command via Fort Laramie. No news.

"Sun, Sept 24 — (Milk Ranch). At Ranch. Started Sam (Groves) to Chug with \$952.60 in checks for H. B. Kelly. Col Bacon went with him. Told Black Smith what work to do and went to Post.

"Mon, Sept 25 — (Milk Ranch). Bob Walker and man at Ranch tonight with small lot of cattle. Speed (Stagner) at Post looking tolerable. McFarland in with hau.

"Wed, Sept 27 — (Milk Ranch). Tom hunting cattle. found them. Charlu Clay in with hay. Branded 23 calves and fixing to take all cattle to Box Elder. Loaned Lt. Webster & Post Hospital a cow each. Transportation wanted to take 500.000 lbs. supplies to Ft. Reno. Went to Post (Fetterman) for mail.

"Thurs, Sept 28 — (Box Elder).

Started to Box Elder with all the beef cattle, milk cows, etc. and got there all right.

"Fri, Sept 29 — (Fort Fetterman). Staid at Box Elder last night. Went down Platte to Post. Ox and mule teams arriving with supplies and are being held here to take supplies to Reno.

OCTOBER, 1876

"Sun, Oct 1 — (Fort Fetterman). Capt. Pollock and his company arrived and went into camp. Examined mower that Capt. Coates used and found it worn out.

"Mon, Oct 2 — (Fort Fetterman). Capt. Von Herman with Co. arrived. Hay teams in with small loads. Sheriff Bramer here after horse thieves.

"Tues, Oct 3 — (Milk Ranch). Cris Abbott hay train unloading. Bought three horses of Stuard. (Sheriff) Bramer took the thieves and horses to Carbon. Mail arrived, Draper with it. Fixed mowing machine. Traded Ed J. Smith two steers for two. Sold Dave Lord one steer.

"Wed, Oct 4 — (Milk Ranch). Powell and cutting party went down Platte with hay train. Went to Post after mail.

"Thurs, Oct 5 — (Milk Ranch). Went across Platte to look for hay, found none. Co. 23rd Infantry arrived. Trains loading for Reno.

"Fri, Oct 6 — (Milk Ranch). Sent (John) Boyd to Box Elder with grain for beef herders' horses. Went up Platte to find hay, found some & went to Post. Trains loading for Reno. Kipp drove over beef from Box Elder. Telegraph not working."

John Boyd appears to have been Hunton's steady employee for some time, according to this memorandum in the back of his 1876 diary under date of March 2: "John Boyd . . . Amt. of work 4 years & 4 Mo., 2320\$" Which would put Mr. Boyd's pay at the rate of about \$45 per month, possibly top wages of that day for a good hand.

"Sat, Oct 7 — (Milk Ranch). Making hay rack to haul hay. Set tire on Mc-Millan light wagon. (George) Powell returned from hay camp after having fight with Indians yesterday. John Ottens severely wounded in shoulder and right arm. Two horses wounded, one of them lost. One Indian killed, one horse killed and two wounded. 2 P.M. went to Post (Fetterman). Sent 200\$ to Hass, 22\$ to Hellman by Draper. Nice day."

The above is the only account we have ever seen of the fight George Powell's hay crew and small military escort had with the Indians and in which Freighter John Ottens received ultimately fatal wounds. It was probably just one of many similar small engagements, too numerous for history to record. But here is the sequence of events which led up to it: a large body of Indians in the area cut telegraph wires (September 20); Powell and his crew, accompanied by Otten's bull train and a small military escort, went down the Platte to harvest hay (September 23) and returned with "small loads" (October 2). Powell, Ottens

and presumably the small military escort went down the Platte to try it again (October 4)—and were attacked October 6.

"Sun, Oct 8 — (Milk Ranch).
Went to Post (Fetterman), from there to Box Elder after work cattle. John Boyd took load of hay to Box Elder. Capt. Pollock started to (Fort) Reno with mule teams. Had wagon fixed to start another team with hay train. Sent \$45 to Mr. (W. G.) Bullock by Draper, who went via Fort Laramie with telegraph party today.

"Mon. Oct 9 — (Milk Ranch).
Loaned McMillan one steer and one of Nath Williams'. Started another team with hay outfit. Also sent one horse. Capt. Von Herman started to (Fort) Reno with first bull outfit. Daily here. At Post recd bal. money for Sept. beef. (John) Boyd got back from Box Elder with small load hay. Telegraph not working. Nice day.

"Tues, Oct 10 — (Milk Ranch).
Daily staid here last night, paid him three hundred dollars on cows. Telegraph working and heard of Rhodes being killed on Horse Shoe. Telegraphed Coad & Cruney (?) about hay.

"Fri, Oct 13 — (Milk Ranch).
Went to Post (Fetterman). Powell returned with hay train after having had three horses stolen by Indians near Bridg-

er's Ferry, without cutting any hay. Telegraphed Kelly

"Sat, Oct 14 — (Fort Fetterman.) Train unloaded little hay and went to Ranch. Telegraph down. Miss Harrington suicided. O'Brien & Pearson arrived. Nice day, little cold.

"Sun, Oct 15 — (Fort Fetterman). Powell started to Deer Creek with train. Miss Harrington buried. Tom & Smith drove in beef.

"Mon, Oct 16 — (Fort Fetterman). Nothing doing. John Ottens worse, had to hire man to attend him. (See Oct. 7 entry).

"Tues, Oct 17 — (Fort Fetterman). Indians attacked train near Elk Horn, wounded Wagon Master. Ottens still growing worse and Doctor given up all hope of his recovery.

"Wed, Oct 18 — (Fort Fetterman). Wagon Master who was wounded on Elk Horn brought in. John Ottens died. Mail arrived.

"Thurs, Oct 19 — (Milk Panch on LaPrele). Buried Ottens. Went to Ranch. Officers composing court to try Lt. Robinson arrived. Storm last night of rain and snow.

"Fri, Oct 20 — (Milk Ranch). Went to Post (Fetterman). Saw Noel Seminole who reports that Indians stole four horses from Chuq Ranch and ki'l-

ed one soldier and wounded two belonging to "K" Co. 2nd Cav. Nice day.

"Sat, Oct 21 — (Fort Fetterman). Hay train in and unloading. Party started out to repair telegraph. Geo. Anderson and others come from Ft. Laramie.

"Sun, Oct 22 — (Fort Fetterman). Hay trains finished unloading. Telegraph up. Much Indian news. Many horses having been stolen on Chug and vicinity. Clay's & McFarland's hay trains arrived.

"Mon, Oct 23 — (Fort Fetterman). Train pulled up to Milk Ranch and having tires set. Clay's outfit unloading. Mule trains arvd from (Fort) Reno. Court martial sitting.

"Tues, Oct 24 — (Fort Fetterman). Borrowed 5 sks coal of Q.M. Train started to R.R. for hay. (George) Powell went ahead to get the hay. Bull outfits arrived from (Fort) Reno. Capt. Quinn with them, reports seeing buffalo and much Indian sign on Powder River. Clay's train started below, sent two horses down by them. Very nice day.

"Wed, Oct 25 — (Milk Ranch). Griffin bought Col. Chambers' horses. Give testimony before Court Martial in Lt. Robinson case. Mail arvd. Tom got cattle out of Speed's (Stagner) herd.

"Thurs, Oct 26 — (Milk Ranch). Mail south, Capt. Quinn with it. Speed's

teams arvd with Tillotson's freight. Mc-Millan come to Ranch with teams.

"Fri, Oct 27 — (Milk Ranch). Made hinges, etc., repaired scales. Settled with Speed Stagner. Went to Post, heard expedition was coming here. Court Martial left.

"Sun, Oct 29 — (Milk Ranch). Staid at Box Elder last night. John Smith went to Milk Ranch with me with wagon to get hay rack. Sent 3 sks. corn, 2 sks. oats, 25 lbs. bacon and 90 lbs. potatoes to Box Elder Ranch by John Smith.

"Mon. Oct 30 — (Milk Ranch). Went to Post (Fetterman). Heard that "F" Co. 4th Infy & 3 companies of 23rd Infy were expected here this week. Took chance in raffle on Lt. Pearson horse at 10\$. paid him. Found 14 head beeves that strayed from herd and come to Ranch."

In October, 1876, Mr. Hunton received a total of \$567.16 for September beef deliveries to the government. Other receipts included: from Wm. Bixby \$5.00, N. Kipp \$35.00 and George Powell \$500.00. His expenditures included payments to: H. Hars \$200.00, B. Hellman \$22.00 and Wm. M. Daily \$300. There were the usual credit and debit banking entries between himself and E. Tillotson.

NOVEMBER, 1876

"Thurs. Nov 2 — (Milk Ranch). Went to Post. Wrote to S & W Omaha, enclosing order on Chief Q.M. for (George) Powell. Capt. Luhn & Andrews companies arvd. Capt. Dernier (?) arrived. Bought his hogs at 40\$.

"Fri, Nov 3 — (Ft. Fetterman). Went to Post. Lost saddle pockets. Horse very lame.

"Sat Nov 4 — (Ft. Fetterman). At Post last night. Recd pay for October beef \$691.12. Slight snow last night.

"Sun, Nov 5 — (Milk Ranch). At Post last night. Gen. Crook & expedition left Fort Laramie today for Fetterman. Train in from (Fort) Reno. Went to Ranch.

"Tues. Nov 7 — (Ft. Fetterman). At Post last night. Gen. Crook & Indians arrived.

"Wed. Nov 8 — (Box Elder Ranch). At Post last night. Got orders for 100 beeves. Expedition arriving. Went to Box Elder to get beeves. Hired man to go with me.

"Thurs, Nov 9 — (Ft. Fetterman). Gathered and brought over 104 head steers. Went to Post. Capt. Dewees (?) and others left.

"Fri, Nov 10 — (Ft. Fetterman).

At Post last night. Board of Officers examined beeves.

"Sat, Nov 11 — (Fort Fetterman). Branded 100 beeves at Ranch. At Post and Ranch. Helping in butcher shop. Bought pony of Billy Garnett for \$50.

"Mon, Nov 13 — (Fort Fetterman). At Post last night. Helping in shop. (Scouts) Louis Richard and Big Bat come to Post and went back and staid at Milk Ranch. Joe started to (Wm. M.) Dailey's.

"Tues, Nov 14 — (Ft. Fetterman). (Crook's) Expedition started at 10:00 A.M. All quiet. Mail arrived at 8 P.M. Got voucher for 7000\$ for 100 beeves. Sold 218\$ cash beef. Very nice day."

The above expedition, Crook's third and last major campaign in the area, was the one which finally succeeded in breaking the back of the desperate and often gallant resistance of the Cheyennes, Sioux and other lesser tribes to the white man's invasion of the Black Hills and their ancestral hunting grounds. This time Crook's forces were more experienced in Indian warfare, far better supplied and equipped and had the invaluable assistance of traitors — large numbers of Indian scouts who, realizing the hopelessness of it all, deserted their embattled fellow tribesmen and came over to the whites.

After this campaign there was still considerable "Indian trouble" for quite some time from a few desperate, fugitive bands who re-

fused to give up. But one by one the proud war chiefs came into the reservations in abject surrender bringing their young fighting men with them, and were disarmed. The sun was fast setting for the Red Man in the West.

"Wed, Nov 15 — (Milk Ranch).

At Post last night. Sent E. Nagle money to pay taxes and bill. Got voucher cashed by Tillotson. Paid store acct. Fixing to go to Chug.

"Thurs. Nov 16 — (Enroute to Bordeaux). At Post last night. Bought Capt. Coats' team and wagon. Made all necessary arrangements and started to Chug. (William) Pye, E. Smith & the Blacksmith with (me).

"Fri, Nov 17 — (Enroute). Staid last night at (Wm. M.) Dailey's on La-Bonte. Got to Horse Shoe Ranch at 3 P.M. Cold and snowing.

"Sat, Nov 18 — (Enroute). Staid last night at Johnson & Walkers. Got to (F. M.) Phillips 4 P.M. Phillips and others gathering beef cattle. Nice day.

"Sun, Nov 19 — (Bordeaux). Staid last night at Phillips. Paid Phillips what I owed him (308\$). Got home 12 M. Everything getting along as usual. Mr. (W. G.) Bullock at Ranch.

"Mon, Nov 20 — (Bordeaux). At Ranch until noon. Went to (Hi) Kelly's. Many teams passing both ways. Paid

Boyle the blacksmith 178\$ Snowed last night and nearly all day.

"Tues. Nov 21 — (Bordeaux). Staid at Kelly's last night. Paid Kelly 1836\$. Got home at noon. Sent Sam to see Phillips about beeves. Bargained with Kelly to round up his cattle and I would take 75 head.

"Wed, Nov 22 — (Bordeaux). At Ranch. (Joe) Morris, Winterling, Kelly and other roundup parties here. Carpenter the cattle buyer here and left.

"Thurs, Nov 23 — (Bordeaux). Roundup party all here last night and gathering cattle today. Phillips herd arrived. Corralled cattle.

"Fri, Nov 24 — (Bordeaux). Went into "The Hole" with Lane and others and got few cattle and calves. (Joe) Morris cut his cattle out and went to Cheyenne. Bal. all held here. Bought Phillips' steers I think, uncertain. Lt. Von Lentzweitz (?) here tonight."

"The Hole" is a large natural basin east of Chugwater, lying about midway between Cheyenne and Torrington, almost surrounded and partially sheltered by low hills and cliffs, long known as Goshen Hole. Originally a good grazing area, "The Hole" has had its ups and downs in later years when some of it was plowed up for "dry farming". In good seasons it is productive but not exactly a land of milk and honey when drouth lays its parching hand

over the plains. Goshen Hole is a corruption of "Goche's Hole", and Goche was a chief of the Assiniboine Indians whose only claim to fame seems to have been the impression he made on early travelers as a shrewd, cruel, unsavory character — an all around Heap Bad Indian.

"Sat, Nov 25 — (On Roundup). All roundup party here last night. Cut out the Phillips' steers and sent them to his place, Bacon and (William) Pye with them. Went to (Hi) Kelly's, gathering cattle as we go. Very windy and disagreeable.

"Sun, Nov 26 — (Hi Kelly's Ranch). At Kelly's last night. Gathering cattle A.M. and put them in Kelly's pasture. 10 A.M. comcd snowing and continued all day.

"Tues, Nov 28 — (Hi Kelly's Ranch). Nearly all the beeves we gathered got out of pasture last night and today. Gathering beeves today. Ed Smith and Bat come to Kelly's.

"Wed, Nov 29 — (Hi Kelly's Ranch). A.M. at telegraph office telegraphed C. O. Ft. Fetterman for escort. Heard Crook had fight. Kelly and men gathering cattle.

"Thurs, Nov 30 — (Bordeaux). Took beeves to Ranch and gathered cattle as we went. Kelly went home. Corraling beeves tonight. Cuny staid at Max-

well's last night on way to Cheyenne with Jules remains. Nice day, little cold."

We are at a loss to explain why Mr. Hunton did not elaborate more in the above entry, but he may have had a good reason. Perhaps it was healthier in those days not to offer any opinion or comment, even in one's own diary, when famous bad men met and shot it out. But it is probably safe enough to speculate a little at this late date. "Jules remains" must have been all that was left of Jules Ecoffey, who was Cuny's partner in that road ranch of questionable repute on the Laramie River about five miles west of Fort Laramie. (See Hunton's article on Calamity Jane following June 17 entry.) The story goes that Jules Ecoffey was also a U. S. Marshal and met his death at the hands of two widely if not favorably known road agents, Meyers and Dunk Blackburn, when they held up the Six Mile Ranch. This entry may date that violent affair of long ago. And the "Maxwell's" referred to was probably the ranch of Tom Maxwell on or near the Chug.

While we do not question the accuracy of the above story or that Jules Ecoffey was killed by Desperadoes Meyers and Blackburn, when they held up his road ranch, we do believe there is reason to doubt that Jules Ecoffey was also a United States Marshal. On January 15, 1877, Mr. Hunton writes, "Frank Ecoffey on coach with man who cut another man at Owen's and another prisoner." It

seems improbable there were two law officers in the area by the name of Ecoffey within such a short period of time.

In November, 1876, Mr. Hunton handled considerable money. He records receipts from the government as follows: November 4, beef contract \$691.12; November 11, beef contract \$175.00 and November 14, beef voucher \$7,000. But he also had expenses, including payments to: N. I. (or J.) O'Brien for taxes \$423.00; E. Nagle \$255.27; F. M. Phillips \$308.40; H. B. Kelly \$1836.00 and "Boyle the Blacksmith" \$178.83. He turned that \$7,000 beef voucher over to E. Tillotson and drew cash from him during the month totaling more than \$6,500.

DECEMBER, 1876

"Fri, Dec 1 — (Enroute to Fetterman). At Ranch (Bordeaux) last night. Started with beeves. Sam (Groves) with his ponies and light wagon. Mr. (W. G.) Bullock went as far as Phillips with me in buggy. Cattle all right and doing well. Got to Phillips at sunset. Garsy Brown shot Joe Walters at Cuny's Ranch. Nice day.

"Sat, Dec 2 — (Enroute). Brand-ed beeves and went as far as Joe Morris. I remained at Phillips. Bullock, Bacon and Pye went to Ranch.

"Sun, Dec 3 — (Enroute). Went to Cottonwood today. Cattle all right except one cow left on Laramie.

"Mon, Dec 4 — (Enroute). Staid at Cottonwood last night. Cattle all right. Drove to Johnsons by night.

"Tues, Dec 5 — (Enroute). Staid at Johnson & W's last night. Drove to LaBontee. I went by (Wm. M.) Daileys.

"Wed, Dec 6 — (For Fetterman). Staid at Dailey's last night. Men held herd on LaBonte. Got to Ranch and went to Post. No news. Wounded arrived from Crook's fight.

"Thurs, Dec 7 — (Fort Fetterman). Sent cattle to Box Elder. Had game cards. Train and extra men &

horses arrived from (Fort) Reno. Snowing nearly all day.

"Sun, Dec 10 — (Fort Fetterman). At (Milk) Ranch last night. Sam Groves started below in light wagon. Sent 1000\$ to (Hi) Kelly and 223\$ to Tom Hunton. Went to Post with (George) Powell. Hunter's Govt. train started to (Fort) Reno. Colin Hunter's hay train in. Maj. Gordon 5th Cav. and party went to Cheyenne.

"Tues. Dec 12 — (Fort Fetterman). Got 7 @ 790/2000 tons hay of Hunter to go on Powell's contract at 37\$ per ton. (N.) Kipp 2310 lbs hay from Hunter. Telegraphed Tillotson Cheyenne.

"Wed, Dec 13 — (Fort Fetterman). Mail arrived, Blacksmith with it. 9 P.M. regular mail arvd. Courier from (Crook's) Expedition which is on the Bell Fouche.

"Fri, Dec 15 — (Milk Ranch on LaPrele). Sent (John) Boyd with light wagon to Hathaway's coal pit to get coal for Q.M. Turned over shop to Blacksmith Geo. Travers (?). Straightening up accounts. Paid Long Brothers for Elk hides.

"Sat, Dec 16 — (Milk Ranch). Trying all day to adjust Nath Williams account and find him nearly five hundred dollars in my debt after allowing him lib-

eral pay for all work. Boyd back with coal and went to Post with it.

"Mon, Dec 18 — (Milk Ranch). At Post last night. Played cards all night. (George) Powell in with wood. Straightened up hay accounts. (D. K.) Lord in from Cheyenne. Settled with him. Borrowed 500\$ from L. P. Justy. Went to Ranch.

"Fri, Dec 22 — (Milk Ranch). At Post last night. Repaired telegraph and telegraphed Sam. Went to Ranch and closed up everything and turned over to Blacksmith. Took wagon etc with John (Boyd) to Post. Wrote application to be made Sutler at (Fort) Reno. Borrowed 314\$ of (E.) Tillotson.

"Sat, Dec 23 — (Enroute to Bordeaux). Started to Chug. John Boyd with old milk wagon and Kipp horse with me. Got to (Wm. M.) Dailey's about sunset. Extremely cold.

"Sun, Dec 24 — (Enroute). Staid at Dailey's last night. Got to Johnson & Walkers about 3 o'clock. J. & W. and women gone to Phillips. Got suit of clothes out of Tillotson's trunk on Haynes' wagon. Very cold all day.

"Mon, Dec 25 — (Enroute). At Johnson & Walkers last night. Nooned at Cottonwood. Ree!'s train laid up on Cottonwood. Got to Phillips at sundown.

"Tues. Dec 26 — (Bordeaux). Staid at Phillips last night. Got home 2 P.M. Killed two antelope on big bottom. Lt. Smead passed with recruits and reported that Gen. Crook and Command were coming in to Fetterman.

"Wed, Dec 27 — (Bordeaux). At Ranch doing nothing. Stage driver reported two men killed by Indians on Indian Creek. Wrote to G. L. Holt for Diary, paper, etc, enclosing 20\$. Sent (E.) Nagle check to pay Kipp's debts in Cheyenne.

"Thurs, Dec 28 — (Bordeaux). At Ranch doing nothing. Tom and (Little) Bat hunting antelope, killed three. Few Black Hillers passing. Charly Clau and Van Dyke Stage man staid here last night. Sam Groves got home.

"Fri, Dec 29 — (Bordeaux). Mail south, but two passengers. Jack Russell and Texas Jim come from Fetterman, report seeing Indians on Horse Shoe with stolen horses. Tom and Col. Bacon brought in 7 antelope. Baptiste (Little Bat) started to agency. Wood Foglesong passed from "Hills" to Cheyenne, sent for locks by him with 15\$.

"Sun, Dec 31 — (Bordeaux). At Ranch all day. Windy and drifting snow. Many teams passing to and from Blk Hills stopping here tonight. Tom Haynes from

Fetterman. Heard Bill Dillon was killed by Indians."

In December, 1876, Mr. Hunton received \$1,771.00 from his beef contract with the army, and \$360.00 for "beef contract hides".

But his expenditures far exceeded his receipts and included payments to: H. B. (Hi) Kelly \$2,050.00; W. G. Bullock \$300.00; Nagle "for N. Williams" \$100.00 and Nagle "on note" \$404.00; F. M. Phillips \$1,590.00; Tom Hunton \$223.21; Hawkes (hay contract) \$273.00; Geo. Harris \$100.00; "Sullivan & Others" \$567.50; Long Bros. (for elk hides) \$20.00; Bill Marsh \$60.00; Nagle "to pay parties" \$128.33 and other small incidental items.

PART TWO

1877

JANUARY, 1877

"Mon, Jan 1 — (Hunton's Road Ranch, Bordeaux, Laramie County, Wyoming Territory). Wrote to (E.) Nagle to buy and ship me lumber and nails; Holt for thermometer and Mem. book; (W. G.) Bullock for 2 pr. womens arctic shoes; Draper & Hammond for files. Coach South. Herman Haas going home from Blk. Hills. Paid him 110\$ on account and give 10\$ to buy files. Branded the Coats mares, the black horse and the Billy Garnett mare "S O".

Pioneer Herman Haas was provost sergeant at Old Fort Laramie from 1861 to 1867, and William Garnett was an interpreter with Chief Red Cloud's illfated peace delegation to Washington (see May 8, 1875 entry.)

"Tues, Jan 2 — (Bordeaux). Coach north, Heck Reel on it. Letter from Wulfjen to go ahead and bale hay. At Ranch all day sharpening saws and hauling wood. Ashenfelter here, give him my note at 90 days for 336\$. Many Black Hill teams here tonight. Gen. Crook passed to Cheyenne. Govt. train passed to Festerman. Sent 38\$ to Mrs. Hall."

Heck Reel, whose "H R" Ranch on the North Laramie later became the George Mitchell spread, was a well known early bull-team freighter. For the Indian attack on Reel's wagon train see August 2, 1876 entry.

And the "Wulfjen" referred to above may have been C. W. Wulfjen, father-in-law of the late Senator John B. Kendrick. Lora B. Chaffin's book, "Sons of the West", records that Kendrick was a trail hand of Wulfjen's for five years, following which he took his savings, bought a small herd of Texas cattle and trailed them to Lance Creek in Converse County. Young Kendrick, destined to become one of Wyoming's best loved governors and senators, married Eula Wulfjen in 1891.

"Wed. Jan 3 — (Bordeaux.) Sam Groves and John Boyd went to Bullock place after wagon and lumber. Coach south, Frank Guard, lot of officers, Bouton & others on it. Horse herd on Spear Fish Blk Hills stolen by Indians last Thursday."

Frank Guard, a native of the Sandwich Islands according to Bourke's "On the Border With Crook", was captured by Crazy Horse's band of Sioux while a mail rider in northern Montana. And, says Bourke, ". . . his dark skin and general appearance gave his captors the impression that Frank was a native Indian whom they had recaptured from the whites; consequently they did not kill him, but kept him a prisoner until he could recover what

they believed to be his native language — the Sioux. Frank remained several years in the household of the great chief Crazy Horse, whom he knew well, as well as his medicine man — the since renowned Sitting Bull". Guard, along with Louis Richaud, Little Bat Garnier, Big Bat Pourier, Speed Stagner and others, became one of Gen. Crook's most trusted scouts. Bourke describes him as "... one of the most remarkable woodsmen I have ever met . . . no Indian could surpass him in his intimate acquaintance with . . . the great region between the head of the Piney up to and beyond the Yellowstone."

"Thurs, Jan 4 — (Bordeaux). Full load passengers on Coach. Deputy Marshall J. J. Fisher went to Fort Laramie after man who stole Govt. horse. Many teams passed both ways. Pack train camped on Creek below Ranch.

"Fri, Jan 5 — (Bordeaux). At Ranch all day. Pack trains of Crook's expedition passed to Cheyenne. Coach south. Capt. Keous (or Keough), Lt. Budd, Wheeler, Rockwell and others on it. Man stabbed at Owens Ranch last night and taken to post (Ft. Laramie) today. Sam Groves and John Boyd got back from Laramie River.

"Sat, Jan 6 — (Bordeaux). Some cavalry and artillery companies camped on Chug last night and passed toward Cheyenne early this morning. Sam and Bill

hauling wood and gathered up load of hay where cavalry camped last night. Coach north, no mail for Ranch. Got span mules from Mr. Bullock by George Cory. Dr. Gibson and Stuard Bryan & Sam here tonight. Received lot of files from (Herman) Hass.

"Sun, Jan 7 — (Bordeaux). Dr. Gibson and party left for Cheyenne. Weighed what gold dust Tom had on hand and found it to be about 98\$ at 18\$ pr. oz. Lot Chinamen passed for Hills. Played freeze out for (William) Pye's pistol and lost 2\$ by it.

"Mon, Jan 8 — (Bordeaux). Griffin passed. George Levers the blacksmith come to ranch. Detachment 9th and 14th Infantry camped at Bridge tonight. Lallee went to (Hi) Kellys. Many freighters passing both ways. Coach south. Deputy Marshall Fisher on it with prisoner McGinnis. 17 passengers on Coach. Wrote Mr. Bullock draft on Tillotson for 250\$.

"Tues, Jan 9 — (Bordeaux). Troops passed under command of Capt. Vanderslice. Coach north. Voorhees on Coach. Paid Collin Hunter for Hunton & Kipp hay. Black Hillers and others here tonight. Ranch receipts to date 420\$."

Luke Voorhees, reputed to have traveled the Oregon Trail in 1859, became one of the best known names in early Wyoming stage coach history. He carried the first mail and ex-

press over the Cheyenne-Deadwood Black Hills Trail in 1876 and was one of the operators of the famed "Treasure Coach" which carried up to \$300,000 in gold at a time, under heavy guard, from the Black Hills to Cheyenne, and became a favorite target for road agents. How the Treasure Coach was held up and robbed in the fall of 1878 is recorded in this journal. Mr. Voorhees also operated other stage lines running from southern Wyoming into Colorado and engaged in mining. As Treasurer of Wyoming Territory he was one of the first officials to occupy the new capitol building in Cheyenne.

"Wed, Jan 10 — (Bordeaux). Mail south. Hanging grindstones, blacksmithing etc. Received thermometer from Holt. 55 degrees at noon.

"Thurs, Jan 11 — (Bordeaux). Went to (John) Owens with petition to Post Master Gen. to establish P. O. at Hunton's Ranch. Got many signers. Tom & Sam killed beef. George Powell come to Ranch. Russell here tonight.

"Fri, Jan 12 — (Bordeaux). Had Frank & Bill horses shod. Tom Hunton and George Powell started to Cheyenne in light wagon. Powell left his horse here. Give Tom memorandum of sundry articles to get and other things to attend to. Mail south. W. M. Ward on Coach from Black Hills. Tom took petition to Post Master Gen. for P. O. here.

"Sat, Jan 13 — (Bordeaux). Mail north. Curly Jim's wagon upset in Creek at bridge.

"Mon, Jan 15 — (Bordeaux). Coach south. Frank Ecoffey on Coach with man who cut another man at Owens' and another prisoner. Ranger Jones' mule outfit passed. Black Hillers passing both ways. Sorrel broncho mare had colt last night."

Frank Ecoffey and his better known brother Jules were natives of Switzerland. Both were early freighters, ranchers and stage station operators. Frank worked as a clerk for Joe Bissionette, famed as an interpreter, at Fort Laramie from 1854 to 1861 and married Bissionette's daughter. He was associated with Hi Kelly in 1867, later had a ranch near Lander and finally settled down in Johnson County. It appears from the above entry that Frank Ecoffey was also an officer of the law in 1877.

"Tues, Jan 16 — (Bordeaux). Mail north. Maj. Randall on Coach going to Red Cloud Agency. Blacksmith (George Levers) fell and hurt his hand & not at work.

"Wed, Jan 17 — (Bordeaux). Mail South. Mr. Bullock and Tom (Hunton) arrived from Cheyenne. Indians stole (Hi) Kelly & Portugee Phillips' horses last night. Hands hauling wood. Colin Hunter and Ramsey passed.

"Thurs, Jan 18 — (Bordeaux).

Mail north. (William) Pye discharged from tending stage stock and George Drake took his place. Company of 23rd Infantry with McKinstry's train camped on Creek below the bridge. Capt. Goodall & Charly Lyon come to Ranch and reported that party of four or five Indians crossed Laramie bridge cut off road yesterday about 4 o'clock. Lt. Drew and wife went to Laramie on Coach.

"Fri. Jan 19 — (Bordeaux). Ed Smith with Fort Fetterman wagons passed enroute to Fetterman. *Mail south.* Sent papers of John Boyd to Nick to file on land. Few passengers on coach.

"Sat, Jan 20 — (Bordeaux). Built privy. Put dirt on house. Team brought freight consisting of oats, ton of coal, Bbl. whisky and baling rope. *Mail north.*

"Sun, Jan 21 — (Bordeaux). Went to (John) Owens in light wagon. Worked mares. Took women. Buck Jones and others passed. Pete Kirby's Govt. train camped on creek enroute to Fetterman.

"Mon, Jan 22 — (Bordeaux). *Mail south.* 4 passengers on Coach. One mare in Stage team sick. (Charly) Clay & Small's teams passed toward Cheyenne. Clay turned his ox teams out on Running Water.

"Tues, Jan 23 — (Bordeaux). *Mail north.* Few passengers on Coach, (Luke) Voorhees went up. Blacksmith (George

Levers) gone to *Fetterman*. "*Talley*" discharged. Stage company's blacksmith here shoeing Stage horses.

"Wed, Jan 24 — (*Bordeaux*). Mail south. (N.) *Kipp* come to Ranch, left his horse and went to *Cheyenne* in Coach. Lt. *Budd* and other parties from *Fetterman* passed on Coach. *Colin Hunter* passed with cattle. Fixing to go to *Sabille* for hay.

"Thurs, Jan 25 — (*Bordeaux*). (*Sam*) *Groves*, (*John*) *Boyd* & (*Wm.*) *Pye* went to *Sabille* with team to bale and haul hay. Mail north. (E.) *Nagle*, *Wilson*, four officers and *Hosepach* (?) on Coach. *George Powell* come to Ranch."

Agnes Wright Spring in her book, "*Cheyenne and Black Hills Stage Routes*", recalls that *E. Nagle* and *A. H. Swan* were *Laramie County Commissioners* in 1877 and, as such, offered a \$200 reward for stage coach robbers, dead or alive.

"Fri, Jan 26 — (*Fort Laramie*). *Powell* and I started to *Nick Janis* to get hay. Went as far as *Fort Laramie*, put up at *Haupaughs* (*Hauphoff*). *Luhman* took *Kelly* to *Cheyenne* for killing cattle. Found \$2.25."

The *Nick Janis Ranch* was some 30 miles east of *Fort Laramie* on the *Platte River* which would put it close to the present *Wyoming-Nebraska* line.

"Sat, Jan 27 — (*Nick Janis*'

Ranch). Staid at Fort Laramie last night. Got to Janis's about 2 o'clock P. M. Bargained for hau. Indians attacked two men on Cotton Wood killing one, wounding the other. who escaped on mule bareback to (T. A.) Kent's Ranch. Indians were all afoot — 7 in number."

1877 saw the end of Indian violence and marauding in the Fort Laramie area according to Mr. Hunton. However, his journal also indicates that white desperadoes and road agents efficiently took over and carried on where the red man left off —

LAST OF THE INDIAN DEPREDACTIONS

"The last depredations by Indians in the county area were in January, February and April, 1877.

"On January 27th seven Indians on foot attacked two trappers on Cottonwood creek about two miles above where the Coleman ranch now stands, killed one and wounded the other, who escaped on a mule and got to the Kent ranch on North Laramie river and Joe Morris, the manager of the ranch, took him to Cheyenne, where he recovered from his wounds.

"On February 24th the Indians stole Kent's horses on North Laramie river, and on the 25th they stole Bettelyoun's horses on Laramie river where Mr. Bomgardner now lives. On April 23rd they

stole horses on Bear Creek but I do not remember who from.

"On September 4, 1877, Crazy Horse was killed at the Red Cloud agency and stealing stopped." — John Hunton in the *Fort Laramie Scout* of July 28, 1927.

"Sun, Jan 28 — (Fort Laramie). Staid at Nick Janis' last night. Went to Fort Laramie. Janis with (George) Powell & myself.

"Mon, Jan 29 — (Bordeaux). Staid at Fort Laramie last night. Paid Nick Janis 300\$ on hay. Telegraphed Q. M. at Fetterman would sell him 50 tons hay at 60\$ per ton. Went to Ranch (Bordeaux), got there at sunset. The Wulfjen hay press would not work well. Sam (Groves) had to come back to Ranch and do some work on it before he could bale. Very fine day.

"Tues, Jan 30 — (Bordeaux). Mail north. Maj. Woolly and others on Coach. (N.) Kipp came from Cheyenne. He and Powell went to Fetterman. Received tuyre (?) iron by Coach. Joe Morris passed to Cheyenne with man who was wounded on Cotton Wood by Indians." (See Jan. 27 entry).

By "tuyre" above Mr. Hunton may have meant "tuyere". Webster's dictionary defines a tuyere (pronounced tweyar) as "the pipe or nozzle through which air is forced into a blast furnace, forge, etc."

"Wed, Jan 31 — (Bordeaux). Mail south. Tom (Hunton) got blank to fill up about Post Office. (Luke) Voorhees and others on Coach. Voorhees wants more stable room as he contemplates putting on a daily Coach in about one month. I promised to fix Stable for him. George (Levers) the blacksmith doing a little work but hand too sore to work much. Sam Groves & hay baling party got home having finished baling hay. Had to leave load on Antelope Creek, team could not pull it."

Among his routine expenditures listed for the month of January, 1877, Mr. Hunton shows these items: "Mrs." S. F. Hall \$38.33, Spool Cotton & Hose \$11.50 and Hotel Bill at Fort Laramie \$5.50. Among receipts for the month he lists "Gold dust \$98.00."

FEBRUARY, 1877

"Thurs. Feb 1 — (Bordeaux). Sam (Groves) went and brought wagon & hay from Antelope Creek. Mail north. Lt. Budd on Coach. No special news.

"Fri, Feb 2 — (Bordeaux). Sam (Groves), Tom (Hunton) & others went to Sabille with two teams for hay press. Mail south. Few passengers. Making some repair irons for hay press.

"Sat, Feb 3 — (Bordeaux). Mail north. Maj. Collier & Capt. Moore on Coach. (Hi) Kelly here to dinner. Sam (Groves) and party returned with hay press. Repairing hay press etc.

"Sun, Feb 4 — (Bordeaux). Repairing hay press. Hunter's Govt. train passed to Cheyenne, brought Mr. (W. G.) Bullock's boxes from Fort Laramie.

"Mon, Feb 5 — (Bordeaux). Started Tom (Hunton) to Cheyenne to get baling wire or rope. Worked Bill & Frank. Done some repairs on Hay Press and the old Milk Wagon. Built house on Tom's claim. Killed beef. Coach south. Old Markle, John Coad & others on Coach.

"Tues. Feb 6 — (Fort Laramie). Started to Nick Janis' to bale hay. Sam Groves, John Boyd & (Wm.) Pye with me. Staid all night at Fort Laramie. Telegraph reports that Gen. Miles whipped

Indians on Yellowstone. George Drake comcd driving Coach. One case Small Pox at Fort Laramie.

"Wed, Feb 7 — (Nick Janis Ranch). Put up press and made five bales hay. Loaned Janis my team and wagon to go to lower hay field and back. Buckskin Jack got here with baling wire. Alvy Ayers here hunting Charly Clay's work cattle.

"Fri, Feb 9 — (Nick Janis Ranch). Cuny & Pard and Buckskin Jack went home. Made 52 bales hay today. John LaMotte comcd work on hay at 40\$ per month.

"Sat, Feb 10 — (Nick Janis Ranch). Made 58 bales hay today. The rope made 109 bales. The nicest day of the winter so far.

"Sun, Feb 11 — (Nick Janis Ranch). 63 bales today. Al Ayers left with Charly Clay's work cattle."

The "Alvy Ayers" so busy rounding up Charly Clay's work cattle along the North Platte near the present Wyoming-Nebraska line in early February, 1877, was Alvah W. Ayres, whose photograph and signature appear below. Many of those early pioneers were apparently content to nonchalantly spell the names of their associates just as they sounded and probably never saw them correctly spelled out in either writing or print.



Mr. Ayres was born in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, December 28, 1841. He came to Colorado in 1860 and became a bull-train freighter, making his first trip to Wyoming with a load of freight for Fort Laramie in 1865, and to Fort Fetterman in 1867. In 1882 he started raising horses and cattle on the LaPrele, a few miles west of Douglas near

the famed natural bridge which bears his name and is located on the original Ayres ranch. In 1890 he married a widow, Mrs. Sallie O. Button, nee Clay, who was a direct descendant of Statesman Henry Clay. A son by her first marriage, Andrew Clement Ayres, is still an active cow-man in the Douglas area.

Mon. Feb 12 — (Nick Janis Ranch). Made 64 bales today. Nothing unusual occurred. Had dreams for last two nights in which women were fighting with knives and pistols in which I was a party."

This is the second series of violent and strangely prophetic dreams which Hunton felt impelled to record. The first preceded last year's savage war with the Sioux and the killing of his brother Jim by the Indians, when he — "Dreamed of fighting, of being shot at and shooting people, for the last five or six nights". (See March 3, 1876 entry). Now come these dreams of battle between presumably jealous females in advance of what was possibly the most violent emotional experience in Hunton's life, the breakup of his romance and companionship with Lallee.

"Tues, Feb 13 — (Nick Janis Ranch). Made 43 bales today. Road out with "E" in buggy. Moved press."

Since Mr. Hunton did not reveal the identity of "E" with whom he "road out" in a buggy, it is reasonable to assume he considered it discreet not to do so. But if the mysterious

"E" was a lady perhaps we have a clue to the basic cause of his disturbing dreams.

"Wed. Feb 14 — (Nick Janis Ranch). Made 50 bales today. Press worked badly. (George) Powell got here with train of 8 teams. Loaded two wagons: No. 1, 7294 lbs.; No. 2, 8406 lbs. Mail in from Cheyenne. Indians reported on Horse Creek above Fagans. Powell had 2 my teams & 3 other yoke cattle extra in (John) Boyd's team."

Fagan's Ranch was a stage station at Horse Creek some thirty miles north of Cheyenne on the route to the Black Hills through Bordeaux and Fort Laramie. The distance by this road from Cheyenne to the "Hills" was about 180 miles. Another stage route in use at the same time, and known as the Lower Road, crossed the Platte River some 80 miles northeast of Cheyenne at the Nick Janis ranch, thence through Spoon and Niobrara Buttes to the Red Cloud Indian Agency and from there on to the Black Hills. The distance by this route was about 195 miles.

"Thurs. Feb 15 — (Nick Janis Ranch). Made 35 bales today. Loaded 4 teams: No. 3, 8120 lbs., 38 bales; No. 4, 9599 lbs., 46 bales; No. 5, 8987 lbs., 42 bales; No. 6, 8490 lbs., 40 bales; No. 7, 8829 lbs., 42 bales. Mail left here. Wrote to (Luke) Voorhees that I could furnish him hay at 32\$ per ton."

Haupoff here. Broke & repaired hay press."

Today's average bale of hay weighs less than 100 pounds, but the above makes it clear that those bales Hunton turned out from Wuljen's horse-powered hay press tipped the scales at more than 200 pounds each.

The "Haupoff" mentioned above was probably "Judge" Joseph J. Hauphoff who came to what is now Wyoming from Kentucky in the late sixties and was running a hotel at Fort Laramie in 1877 (see January 26 entry). Judge Hauphoff's other business ventures included a shoe store at Cheyenne, lumber yard where Guernsey now stands, hotel and grocery store at Sunrise, another hotel at Badger and some mining operations. He was also mayor of Hartville and its first justice of the peace.

"Fri, Feb 16 — (Nick Janis Ranch).

Loaded one wagon with 38 bales, weight 7820 lbs. Train started to (Fort) Fetterman. Paid Janis bal. of 350\$ for fifty tons of hay. Cuny come. Made 64 bales today."

It will be recalled that on January 29 Hunton bargained with Nick Janis for hay and paid him \$300 on account. The above item shows the payment of "bal. of 350\$ for 50 tons of hav." This would seem to peg the price he paid Janis at \$650 for 50 tons of hav, or \$13 per ton in the stack. On January 29 Hunton also quoted the Quartermaster at Fort Fetterman a price of \$60 per ton on 50 tons

of hay, baled and delivered. And on February 15 he wrote Luke Voorhees he could furnish his stage line with hay at \$32 per ton, presumably at the stage station on Hunton's Bordeaux Ranch, fifty miles or so to the west. It was a long haul by ox-team from the Janis Ranch to Fort Fetterman near the present town of Douglas — well over a hundred miles — which probably accounts for much of the price-spread between \$13 per ton for hay in the stack on the Janis Ranch and \$60 per ton for it baled and delivered at Fort Fetterman.

"Sat, Feb 17 — (Nick Janis Ranch). 56 bales today. Train getting along very slow. Rode out with "E". Cuny and Nick went to hay field below.

"Sun, Feb 18 — 18 (Nick Janis Ranch). Made 46 bales today. Cuny went home. Nick's 'Johnny Bull' bulldozed by parties at hay camp. The Hechts here. Wrote letter for Nick to (E.) Nagle — Draper & H (Hammond) about rope, wire etc. Wrote to Nagle about hides.

"Mon, Feb 19 — (Nick Janis Ranch). Made 64 bales today. Nick's team started to Cheyenne. Heard of train being attacked on Black Hills road and one killed. Troops started for Fort Laramie, etc. "Kate" mare got badly kicked last night and is quite lame.

"Tues, Feb 20 — (Nick Janis Ranch). Made 36 bales today. Quit bal-

ing and fixed to start home. Piled 155 bales. Made 151 bales for Janis.

"Wed, Feb 21 — (Nick Janis Ranch). Sam (Groves), John (Boyd), (Wm.) Pye started home. I remained at Janis. Mail arrived. Indian depredations reported.

"Thurs, Feb 22 — (Fort Laramie). Started home from Janis, Nick with me. Left my mare 'Kate' at Janis she being too lame to travel. Got to Fort Laramie before sunset. Rumors of Indian depredations at Dead Wood. Sam (Groves) & party got to Ranch with load of posts.

"Fri, Feb 23 — (Bordeaux). Staid at Fort Laramie last night. Got to Ranch before night. Everything all right except Lallee wanted to leave. Coach north with heavy load of passengers. Nice day.

"Sat, Feb 24 — (Hi Kelly's Ranch). Sam & party went to Sabille for hay. Lallee insisted on leaving me with all her things. Told her she could go and let her have wagons to take her things to Laramie River. Parted from her without quarreling. Am much hurt at her conduct towards me but think it best that she leave as she is dissatisfied. Coach south. Went to (Hi) Kelly's on Coach to pay him on beef. Jack Bowman on Coach. Indians stole Joe Morris' horses last night."

Agnes Wright Spring's book, "Cheyenne and Black Hills Stage Routes", records that a

man named Jack Bowman had charge of the notorious Six Mile "Hog Ranch" in 1877 and that he was suspected of harboring road agents.

"Sun, Feb 25 — (Little Bat's Place). Staid at Kelly's last night. Paid him 827\$. Kelly and I started to Fort Laramie to sell hay. Lallee left Ranch but did not take her things with her. Kelly & I staid at "Bat's" tonight. Soldiers go out to find Indians. Indians stole Bettel-youn's horses last night."

Little Bat (Baptiste Garnier), Hunton's protege and lifelong friend, was also Lallee's brother as will be subsequently shown, and it was to Little Bat that Hunton confided and to whom he turned in his bitter hours.

"Mon Feb 26 — (Fort Laramie). Staid at Bat's last night. Went to Post (Fort Laramie). Got tire rep. set from Cuny's as we passed. Saw Lal'ee at Post. Had talk with her about leaving me. She is now rather disposed not to go but I advised her to leave as she has manifested such a dissatisfied disposition. Had much rather seen her die. Soldiers returned without seeing Indian trail. Telegraphed (N.) Kipp."

"Tues, Feb 27 — (Fort Laramie). (Hi) Kelly went home. Mail arrived. Mr. (W. G.) Bullock on Coach. Am in much distress about Lallee. Fetterman mail arrived late. Letter from (W. E.) Hathaway. Learn that parties have bid to fur-

nish beef for (Fort) Reno. Telegraph down.

"Wed, Feb 28 — (Fort Laramie). Man died with smallpox. Nothing new. Nick Janis' man in post with long rod of hay press to be repaired. Have not seen Mr. Bullock. Probabilities are that he will be recommended by Council for Post Trader but I think the recommendation will not be approved. His Squaw record is injuring him. Wrote to (N.) Kipp how to manage beef matter."

W. G. Bullock, Hunton's earliest partner in the cattle business, was the one person to whom he always gives the respectful title of "Mr.", even in this diary. Bullock was one of the few Hunton really "looked up to", and his high esteem for him continued throughout their long and close relationship. When Mr. Bullock died many years later Hunton sadly recorded that he had lost the best and truest friend he ever had.

Perhaps because it was such an emotional and upsetting month, Hunton's financial record for February, 1877, is skimpy and incomplete. Between "E" and Lallee and hay baling he must have had both mind and hands full and apparently little time or inclination for book-keeping. But on February 24, the day of the showdown with Lallee, he does record receipt of \$1078.01 on "Beef Contract" and also his payment of \$827.35 to "Kelly on beef". He also paid \$18.00 to John LaMotte whom he

hired to help bale hay at \$40 per month (February 9 entry).

A memorandum in the back of the 1877 diary, under what appears to be the date of February 4, includes the following intriguing items: "Blk velvet hat & veil, 8 to 10\$; Pr. shoes, 4½, brass heels; 1 Doz. hose, cheap Merino."

MARCH, 1877

"Thurs, Mar 1 — (Fort Laramie). Mail arrived at 11 P.M. Gilmer, Salisbury, Voorhees on. Council of Administration met and recommended Mr. (W. G.) Bullock to be appointed Sutler. Bargained to sell Collins the hay on Bullock place at \$21.50 pr ton."

Again we gratefully turn to Mrs. Spring's book, "Cheyenne and Black Hills Stage Routes" for background information. She places Jack Gilmer, Monroe Salisbury, M. H. Patrick and Russell Thorp, Sr. in the front rank of Cheyenne-Black Hills stage men. Gilmer, Salisbury and Patrick had stage coach lines running in Wyoming, Utah, Idaho and Montana. They were transportation magnates of those exciting days immediately preceding the coming of the railroads. And Luke Voorhees had charge of their line from Fort Laramie north to the Black Hills. Mrs. Spring's stories of the widespread operations of these men and their battling against the road agents who preyed on their coaches is fascinating reading.

"Fri, Mar 2 — (Bordeaux). At Post (Fort Laramie) last night. Went to Ranch on Coach. Voorhees on. Lallee come to Ranch, is undecided about leaving. Snowing nearly all day. Quite a storm."

"Sat, Mar 3 — (Bordeaux). Mail

north. not much doing. (Wm.) Pye stole money from Jim last night. Recd corn by Curly. Pye left with Curly. Sam (Groves), Col. Bacon, Jack & Williams went and brought him back.

"Sun, Mar 4 — (Bordeaux). Loaded all Lallee's things on wagon and sent her and them to Patton's by Sam Groves. Learned that she has been toying with Joe Morris. Mail south. (Wm.) Pye went with it. Nice day."

Two men named Russell and Patton, on the Yates ranch, are listed by Virginia Cole Trenholm in her "Footprints on the Frontier," as among the squawmen who had settled on the Laramie. The Indian women of this considerable group had a camp of their own on the river where they liked to congregate during nice weather for a taste of the old life.

"Mon, Mar 5 — (Patton's Place). Went to Patton's early this morning for the purpose of diverting Lallee from Morris, and get her to stay at Patton's or come to Ranch until I can communicate with Bat (Little Bat Garnier, her brother) and get her to the Agency. All her things had been moved to Morris'.

"Tues, Mar 6 — (Bordeaux). Persuaded Lallee to have her things moved back to Ranch by Patton and she go to Agency first chance. Arranged for her to leave her things at Patton's and go to Agency at once with Pete Richard (or

Reshaw) and party. Tom Hunton to go along. Went to Ranch.

"Wed, Mar 7 — (Bordeaux). Tom Hunton and Lallee start to Agency in light wagon. I give Tom positive instructions not to bring her back but leave her at Agency or on Laramie when he returned, and to tell Bat all about her conduct. Sam (Groves), Jim and William hauling timber for stage stable. (See January 31 entry.) F. M. (Butcher) Phillips passed, taking his children to McUlvanes. He has thrown his squaw away and sent her to Agency. Mail north. Signed coal vouchers. Changeable weather, 3 P.M. snowing fast."

These were the days when white men were beginning to discard their squaws and pack them off to the reservation, frequently keeping the children. There are still a few old timers left who can tell grim tales of babies being literally torn from the breasts of their mothers, who were carried away screaming. Some of them lost their minds, others their considerable pride and thereafter consorted with whomsoever would have them. It is said that these no-longer-wanted Indian women had been, for the most part, faithful and loyal helpmates to their white men — and that their mother love was fierce and strong.

Dan McUlvane and his partner, John McFarlane, had a ranch at Chimney Rock on the stage route from Cheyenne to the Black

Hills, not far from Hunton's ranch at Bordeaux.

"Thurs, Mar 8 — (Bordeaux). Tillotson and Paymaster Thornburg staid here last night. At Ranch all day doing nothing. Mail south and north. Ed Broughton on Coach.

"Fri, Mar 9 — (Bordeaux). At Ranch all day doing nothing. F. M. (Butcher) Phillins dined here. Give him my note for 206\$ for P. L. Wilson payable July 1st, 1877. Phillips buying cattle for Indian beef contractor, bought (Hi) Kelly's, Coffee's, J & W.'s (Johnson & Walker's) and others, also bought Luhman herd. Bob Walker and men and horses here tonight going to Horse Shoe. Mail north and south late on account of storm. Full load on Coach. Thermometer 18 below last night.

"Sat, Mar 10 — (Bordeaux). Working on Stage Stable. Mail north and south. Few passengers on Coach. Furnished stabling for Stage horses tonight. Washed clothes today.

"Sun, Mar 11 — (Fort Laramie). Went to Post in light wagon, worked "Frank" and the Johnson horse. Gens. Crook & McKenzie arrived at Post. Nothing new stirring. Coach arrived, full load.

"Mon, Mar 12 — (Fort Laramie). Louis Richard (Reshaw) and "Bat" (Lit-

the Bat Garnier) arrived from (Red Cloud) Agency. Report some Indians arriving and turning over their horses and arms. They met Tom (Hunton) and Lallée on Running Water. Told Bat about Lallée's conduct. Joe Morris not to blame according to all reports I can hear. Mr. (W. G.) Bullock went to Cheyenne on the Coach. Asked him to get 1000\$ for Sam Groves in Cheyenne. His chance for Suttler bad as the Commanding Officer disapproved action of Council (see March 1 entry).

"Tues. Mar 13 — (Fort Laramie). (General) Crook & Collins (probably the post trader) went hunting for ducks & chickens. Sold hay at Janis' to Quartermaster at 20\$ per ton. Hunter's train went to Janis' to get Collins' hay. Went to Baptiste's. Saw Snyder and talked to him about beef at (Forts) Fetterman & Reno."

The Snyder mentioned above was either Dudley Snyder or his brother, and the Snyder brothers were older half brothers of C. W. Wulfjen. Wulfjen came to Wyoming with a herd of Texas cattle in the spring of 1871. His wife joined him from Texas in 1873, bringing their two daughters, one of them Eula, then fifteen months old. Eula, now 84, is the widow of Senator John B. Kendrick, still makes her home at Trail End, the Kendrick Ranch near Sheridan, Wyoming.

"Wed, Mar 14 — (Bordeaux). Went by Patton's and got Sewing Machine and other things that Lallee left there. Got to Ranch about sunset. Men working on Stage Stable. Col. Bacon quite sick. George Levers here to blacksmith.

"Thurs, Mar 15 — (Bordeaux). Coach north. George comcd blacksmithing. Working on Stage Stable. Many Black Hillers passing. Phillips & Morris roundup party camped here.

"Fri, Mar 16 — (Bordeaux). Phillips and Morris roundup party today. (Joe) Morris rode my bey colt. Stage south, Gilmore (Jack Gilmer), Saulsbury (Monroe Salisbury) & Luke Voorhees on Coach. Working on Stage Stable. Snow storms at intervals all day."

Apparently Lallee's alleged "toying" with Joe Morris (March 4 entry), which is given some substance by the fact that she had her things moved to the Morris ranch when she left Hunton's (March 5), had little if any effect on friendly relations between the two men. Hunton absolves Morris from fault in the matter (March 12) and now loans him his bay colt to ride on the roundup.

"Sat, Mar 17 — (Bordeaux). Men work on Stage Stable. Coach north, full load passengers. "Bat" (Baptiste Garnier) come to Ranch and rode the bey colt.

"Mon, Mar 19 — (Bordeaux).

Working on Stage Stable. Mail north & south. Full load on Coach. Received shirts etc. for Sam (Groves) & Williams. Washed clothes.

"Tues, Mar 20 — (Bordeaux). Working on Stage Stable. Coach south. M. V. Boughton (Boughton) on Coach."

M. V. Boughton had one of the four earliest cattle herds on the range north of the Union Pacific R. R. in Wyoming according to Virginia Cole Trenholm who credits the other three "firsts" to Heck Reel, the Carey Brothers and M. A. Arnold. And Agnes Wright Spring records that Boughton established the first herd of cattle in the Black Hills Custer valley. Mrs. Spring also tells the tale of how a stage coach in which Boughton's wife was riding was way-laid by road agents at Whoop Up canyon on the Cheyenne-Deadwood road July 2, 1878. After lining up and robbing several of the passengers the bandits were driven off when one of their intended victims, Daniel Finn, drew his revolver and opened fire. In the ensuing gunplay Finn, several other passengers and some of the robbers were wounded, but Mrs. Boughton was not harmed or molested — western chivalry no doubt.

"Wed, Mar 21 — (Bordeaux). Finished Stage Stable. Tom (Hunton) got home. brought Lallee with contrary to my verbal and written request. Stage north, full load passengers. Mail south.

Telegram from (George) Powell about Coats' hay. Jim Lane passed.

"Thurs, Mar 22 — (Bordeaux). Got load of posts. Stage south. Bat (Little Bat Garnier) went to Pattons with his sister (Lallee) after her trunks. Making ox shoes. (Hi) Kelly passed going home. George Cory here tonight.

"Fri, Mar 23 — (Bordeaux). Fixing bars to corralls. Blacksmith (George Levers) making ox shoes. Coach north, full load passengers. Black Hillers laying over here. Snowed all day.

"Sun, Mar 25 — (Bordeaux). Baptiste (Little Bat Garnier) started to Agency. Loan him little mare to ride he leaving his horse here which I am to have if he does not return the mare in good order. Coach north, full load passengers. (John) Owens & family here. Loaned him plow."

The Owens were Hunton's close neighbors, their ranch being four or five miles from Bordeaux on the road to the Black Hills, about half way between Hunton's and Eagles Nest. Johnny Owens had a rather remarkable career and unusual reputation as a professional gambler, sporting house proprietor (he at one time operated the Three Mile "Hog Ranch" just outside the Ft. Laramie military reservation) and also as a highly respected, honest citizen and "two-gun" sheriff with some twenty killings to his credit. Fine raiment and fine horses were said to be his hobbies.

Below is a photograph of the remarkable Johnny Owens, taken at Thermopolis about 1925, nearly half a century after the above entry.

TWO PIONEER FAMILIES



John Owens left. Mrs. Owens in wheelchair, Pioneer Henry Nietfeld and Mrs. Nietfeld center, with their daughters May and Esther.

We are indebted to Widow Nietfeld for this photograph. She still lives on the family homestead, surrounded by her descendants. The old ranch lies along the Laramie just above the Fort Laramie National Monument.

Mrs. Nietfeld, in addition to a lively interest in today's affairs, has vivid recollections of events long past. She clearly recalls many tales of early days told her by both Mr. and Mrs. Owens. Her son, Albert — now a grizzled rancher in his own right — once asked Johnny Owens about all those funny notches on his gun — received only a smiling, evasive answer. The senior Nietfeld later explained what they meant to the bug-eyed little boy. He also impressed on his innocent offspring that it was not good manners to question old timers about such a strictly personal matter.

"Mon, Mar 26 — (Fort Laramie). Hauling posts. Went to Post (Ft. Laramie) with Jim Lane. Telegraphed Lt. Chase for Stud. (F. M.) Phillips and others at Post with cattle for indian beef.

"Tues. Mar 27 — (Bordeaux). Signed voucher for hay. Phillips & I signed Tom's (Tom Hunton's) P. O. Bond. Johnson & Walker here with their cattle to turn over for Indian beef. Got telegram from (Lt.) Chase to get horse and went home as horse had been sent down by Hunter's train. Ke'lu & Leggett went to Laramie on Coach. Charly Stuart at Laramie. Hathaway at Ranch."

⁷¹ The bond signed by John Hunton and F. M. Phillips for "Tom's P. O. bond" was undoubtedly in connection with establishment of a postoffice at Bordeaux (see January 11 entry) of which Tom Hunton was postmaster.

Thereafter Bordeaux became the mail distribution center for a large area, serving the early day ranchers on the LaBonte, Horseshoe, Cottonwood, Sybille and North Laramie rivers.

"Wed, Mar 28 — (Bordeaux).

Hauling posts. 4 H. (4-horse) Coach north. Mr. (W. G.) Bullock went to Fort Laramie. Voorhees on. John comcd driving. I am having Stock (stage horses) attended to until another man comes. Got the (Col.) VanVliet stud and (Lt.) Chase's pony. 6 H. (6-horse) Coach south. (Hi) Kelly along, give him order on S. & W. for amt. of hay voucher. Sam's Curly mare took horse.

"Thurs. Mar 29 — (Bordeaux).

Working on corrall. Nath Williams passed with Griffin & others. 6 H. Coach north, full load. 4 H. Coach S. New stock tender come. Searight passed to Laramie. Hathaway here. Put Sam's young mare and my Kate mare to horse.

"Fri, Mar 30 — (Bordeaux). Made

gate. Sam (Groves) & Jim went to (Hi) Ke'ly's for hay. Wulfjen & Pard come to Ranch and told of the Jacksons being killed by McQuade. Hathaway here. Coach south and north.

"Sat, Mar 31 — (Bordeaux). Coach

south, none north on account of storm. (Luke) Voorhees along. Wulfjen & Pard here all day. Pack train passed south. Snowing and blowing severe all day.

APRIL, 1877

"Sun, Apr 1 — (Bordeaux). 6 H. Coach north. Got axes. 12 passengers on Coach. 4 H. Coach north loaded. Wulfjen & Pard started, met Ashenfelter and returned and staid all day and night. Ash got dinner here. (T. E.) Kent, Searight, Morris etc. passed. Sam (Groves) had to leave wagon on road with hay and come to ranch with team on account of mud. Roads very muddy."

It is known that Wulfjen and Webb, of the Muleshoe ranch, were one of the earliest large cattle outfits in the Laramie river region but we find no reference to anyone named "Pard". It is possible that Mr. Hunton in his frequent references to "Wulfjen & Pard" may have been referring to Mr. Wulfjen and his partner Webb, but that is pure surmise. Ashenfelter and Searight had places near Chimney Rock.

"Mon, Apr 2 — (Bordeaux). 6 H. Coach south at 2 o'clock this morning. Charly Clay on board. 6 H. Coach north. No mail for Ranch. 4 H. Coach south. Sam (Groves) went for hay wagon and brought it in. Wulfjen etc. left. Large lot of Blackhillers from Maine & Connecticut here tonight. John Owens returned home from Cheyenne".

It is difficult to imagine the rush that is now on for the Black Hills from all over

the nation — men lured by the magic word "gold", with their dreams of quick and easy wealth, and the women who always follow the path of such adventurers. Newspapers stories and other records of the day show that large organized groups from the states of Maine, Connecticut, Wisconsin, Missouri, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Illinois, Tennessee, Louisiana and New York — to mention a few — flooded into Cheyenne the spring of 1877, all clawing their way toward that Promised Land. Transportation from Cheyenne to the Black Hills was at a premium. Hunton's references to 4-horse and 6-horse coaches passing through Bordeaux at all hours of the day and night faintly echo that feverish period.

"Tues, Apr 3 — (Bordeaux). 4 H. Coach north. Drivers changed. John discharged. 6 H. Coach south. Col. Carpenter & party here tonight. John Slaughter's remains passed to Cheyenne."

"Johnny Slaughter" is one of the best remembered names among all those intrepid stage drivers of that day. He was shot to death from his driver's seat two or three miles out of Deadwood by five masked road agents. His 6-horse team ran away and several passengers were wounded in the holdup. Slaughter's father, J. N. Slaughter, was city marshal in Cheyenne and left for Deadwood on the next coach. "Persimmon Bill" Chambers, Joel Collins, Sam Bass, Frank Towle, "Reddy" McKemma, Jim Berry and a man named Heff-

ridge were among some of the better known outlaws suspected of that killing, but so far as we know no one ever paid a penalty for that crime. Young Slaughter (26 years old) was buried in Cheyenne's Lakeview cemetery April 4, 1877 and was given the longest funeral procession that young city had ever seen.

The Col. (C. C.) Carpenter mentioned in the above entry was a Black Hills "promoter" from St. Louis. For a number of years he organized eastern gold seekers into large groups and piloted them West — probably a very profitable racket.

"Thurs. Apr 5 — (Bordeaux). Commenced work on ditch. Borrowed Colin Hunter's scraper. Wood Foglesong here last night."

Perhaps Hunton is referring above to George D. Foglesong, Cheyenne business man who catered strongly to the Black Hills trade. It was also a "Mr. Foglesong" who helped Hunton arrange the funeral of his brother James (May 8, 1876). And on January 1, 1875 he lists G. D. Foglesong & Co. among his creditors — owed them \$70.

"Fri. Apr 6 — (Bordeaux). Working on ditch. Made shovel plow. Daily & Graham here tonight. Many B. Hillers passing. Maj. Mason passed. (Tom (Hunton) & I took Post Office Oath."

At about this time a man named Clint Graham owned the 66 Riverview Ranch on Labonte, and "Long" Daily's place was a few

miles up the creek. The "Post Office Oath" was apparently to qualify John Hunton and his brother Tom to handle mail at the new Bordeaux office, although Tom was the official postmaster.

"Sat, Apr 7 — (Bordeaux). Working on ditch. Sent hides to Cheyenne by Daily. Joe Morris & sister and Newcomb here to dinner.

"Sun, Apr 8 — (Bordeaux). Deputy Sheriff Foster & Negro Sam passed in pursuit of Blivins. Let Sam ride my Broncho to Laramie (river).

"Mon, Apr 9 — (Bordeaux). Doing nothing. (E.) Tillotson come to Ranch. Snowed nearly all last night and all day.

"Tues, Apr 10 — (Bordeaux). Sam (Groves) & Jim worked on Col. Bacon's house. Tillotson here.

"Wed, Apr 11 — (Bordeaux). Plowed and laid off long ditch. Bought pony of George Cory. Tillotson here. Nath Williams come to Ranch.

"Thurs, Apr 12 — (Bordeaux). Working on ditch. Tillotson went to (Ft.) Fetterman with my wagon and 2 black horses. Nath Williams with him.

"Fri, Apr 13 — (Bordeaux). John Boyd commenced building house on his claim. Newcomb & wife come to Ranch. Finished ditch on east side of creek. Heard Indians stole horses on Bear Creek.

"Sat. Apr 14 — (Bordeaux). Working on ditch and dam. F. M. Phillips here to dinner, going to McUlvanes. (George) Powell arrived.

"Sun. Apr 15 — (Bordeaux). Powell left with train, received wire for fence by him. Levers (the blacksmith) & (John) Boyd left. F. M. Phillips passed for home. Collins passed for Omaha. Killed beef. Sold Russell bull for 60\$."

D. H. Russell and Patton were squawmen who shared the same ranch on the Laramie. It will be recalled that Lallee took refuge with the Patton's when she left Hunton. (March 4 entry).

"Mon, Apr 16 (Bordeaux). Finished dam and ran furrows for water on south side of Creek. Arranged to send two men on roundup with McUlvane & others. Wrote Capt. Van Vliet that I would take horse at \$150.

"Tues, Apr 17 — (Bordeaux). All hands done nothing today. Wulfjen's freighters here. Rained all night and all of today.

"Wed, Apr 18 — (Bordeaux) Hands done but little today, cutting wood, fixing fence, etc. Mr. (W. G.) Bullock come to ranch.

"Thurs, Apr 19 — (Bordeaux). Working on upper ditch. Govt. wagon train passed, left two cases of Smallpox at

Chugg Station. Branded bull that I sold Russell. Nice day."

Hiram B. (Hi) Kelly was probably the proprietor of that "Chugg Station" on Chugwater creek some 12 or 14 miles south of Hunton's Bordeaux, although John "Portugee" Phillips also operated a popular road ranch in the same vicinity during the 70's. But it is perhaps safe to say that Kelly, Portugee, or whoever it may have been, was not overjoyed at having "two cases of Smallpox" dumped in his lap.

From the earliest days Chugwater was a stopping place for travelers and the slow moving ox trains on the lonely and dangerous roads north. Its importance and wide renown ended however with the coming of the railroad in 1887 — and Chugwater, together with those other stage stations which sheltered pioneers on the old road, began to gradually fade from the memory of men.

Later in his journal Hunton describes in considerable detail the daily progress of the rails northward to Chugwater and beyond, and the hazards, uncertainties and sometimes high adventure of early railroad travel.

"Fri, Apr 20 — (Bordeaux). Working on dam and ditch. Sam (Groves) went to (Hi) Kelly's to put up hay-press and returned.

"Sat, Apr 21 — (F. M. Phillips' Ranch). Daily and others passed. Bought

horse of McPadden for 80\$. Plowed garden. Started to (Fort) Fetterman.

"Sun, Apr 22 — (Enroute). Staid at (F. M.) Phillips last night and all day. Snowed last night and nearly all day.

"Mon, Apr 23 — (Enroute). Staid at Phillips last night. Went to Horse Shoe today in company with Daily and others. Saw Irwin on Cotton Wood.

"Tues, Apr 24 — (Enroute). Staid at Johnson & Walkers last night. Went to Daily's. Snow last night and nearly all day.

"Wed, Apr 25 — (Fort Fetterman). Staid at Dailys last night. Saw Capt. Luhn and Lt. Foster on LaBonte. Got to (Fort) Fetterman P.M. Saw Tom Matthews. Foggy, cloudy and cold."

The above entries made on his journey from Bordeaux to Ft. Fetterman are in a large, hurried and hard to read pencil scrawl, but once settled at Fetterman Hunton resumes his journal with pen, ink and greater precision.

"Thurs, Apr 26 — (Fort Fetterman). (George) Powell's train got in, unloaded and went to Milk Ranch. Nath Williams come in from Box Elder. Kipp returned from (Ft.) Reno. Will stay here all night. Cold, snowing.

"Fri, Apr 27 — (Milk Ranch on LaPrele). Went to Milk Ranch. Compared accounts with Nath Williams. Found everything all right at Ranch. (George)

Powell and McUlvan started train for wood. Powell and I went to Post (Fetterman). Promised Capt. Pollock a cow. Cold, snowing."

Capt. Edwin Pollock was one of the officers assigned in 1875 to the impossible task of keeping miners out of the Black Hills, in accordance with the terms of our treaty with the Indians. And apparently he really tried. Had his troops arrest all the "invaders" they could catch and turned them over to the civil authorities. But it must have been frustrating work. The civil authorities just turned them loose to try and try again. According to Agnes Wright Spring Capt. Pollock thus caught and "delivered" one enterprising and determined gold seeking prospector four times in a period of three months — the man opined he could play that game as long as the soldiers. The good captain retired from his hazardous job of patrolling the wild frontier in 1885, only to almost immediately fall down the stairs of Cheyenne's Inter-Ocean hotel and kill himself.

"Sat, Apr 28 — (Milk Ranch). Settled with (George) Powell for hay contract. Settled with (W. E.) Hathaway. Mail arrived.

"Mon, Apr 30 — (Milk Ranch). At Post (Fetterman) all day. Give Nath Williams 50\$ to get rid of him and sent him to Chug with wagon and four horses."

Hunton's still sketchy and incomplete fi-

nancial record for April, 1877, shows that he paid Draper & Hammond \$10.00; Geo. Corey for horse, \$25.00; B. Hellman, \$5.00; S. Bon (in full), \$39.50 and E. Tillotson, his saloon-keeping banker at Ft. Fetterman, \$1,-024.84. (Draper & Hammond and B. Hellman were well known Cheyenne store keepers and Black Hills outfitters).

MAY, 1877

*"Tues, May 1 — (Milk Ranch).
At Post (Ft. Fetterman) all day. Heard
that Crazy Horse and all his warriors were
going into agency. Snowing, raining."*

Crazy Horse, most fierce and implacable warrior of them all and most skillful military strategist of the Sioux nation, was the last of their great chiefs to surrender — which he finally did with tongue in cheek. Even after he and his forces turned over their arms to the military at Red Cloud Indian agency Crazy Horse still dreamed of a comeback, plotted to escape, kept the young braves he could influence in a state of foment and encouraged their depredations. Because of these activities and his unbearable arrogance General Crook finally ordered the personal arrest of Crazy Horse about September 1, 1877, causing the irrepressible old fighter to make his final futile break for freedom the night of September 3. He managed to reach the Spotted Tail agency where he was betrayed and taken into custody by fellow Indians more friendly to the white man who brought him back to Red Cloud. While Crazy Horse was being placed in the guard house there he suddenly drew a knife and attacked his captors. He was stabbed and bayoneted in the fracas and thus died, still fighting. As he breathed his last (according to Bourke in "On the Border With Crook") Chief Touch The Clouds, of the San Arcs

tribe, placed his hand on the dying warrior's chest and said, "It is good; he has looked for death and it has come". The end of Crazy Horse also marked the end of Indian terror along the Laramie — see Hunton's statement following January 27 entry.

"Wed, May 2 — (Ft. Fetterman). At Post all day. Bids opened for beef for (Forts) Reno and Fetterman. Lowest bid for Reno J. R. Smith — block 10c, hoof 9c. Lowest for Fetterman: Hunton — block 8c, hoof 8c; (W. E.) Hathaway — block 8¼, hoof 7½; Smith block 8½, hoof 6 90/100. Roundup party from LaBontee here."

John R. Smith was an early rancher on Powder River who sold beef to the military and was reputed to be well-to-do. One day a notorious road agent, one Frank Towle, came to Smith's ranch on robbery bent. Instead, Smith shot Towle. And then, so the story goes, Mrs. Smith nursed the bandit back to health. For this broadminded if not loving care the gallant Towle is understood to have shown his appreciation, later on, by stealing Smith's horses. After all, business is business.

"Thurs, May 3 — (Box Elder Ranch). Went to Box Elder. Roundup party rounded up herd, cut out and went on to Speed's (Stagner's).

"Fri, May 4 — (Fort Fetterman). Staid at Box Elder Ranch with Tom last

night. Went by Milk Ranch and had my horse shod. Went to Post.

"Sat, May 5 — (Fort Fetterman). At Post all day. Delivered to Capt. Coats 1030 lbs. hay. Got of (George) Powell 1235 lbs. hay.

"Sun, May 6 — (Ft. Fetterman). At Post all day, done nothing. Hear that Commissary recommended Smith's bid for beef. Roundup party found Sullivan's bones."

Light has been shed on the identity of "Sullivan's bones" found by that roundup of long ago. Mrs. Criss Cross Morton, of Oakland, California, says:

"They were the bones of Andy Sullivan who lived at the Daily ranch and was killed by Indians while riding to visit Frank Prager. My father (the late George H. Cross) was there at the time and they searched in vain for Andy. With William Daily at the ranch were: Clint Graham, Charley Campbell, Alex Wilson, Joe and Andy Sullivan. They had all driven their cattle to the LaBonte from northern Colorado in 1875.

"The Sullivans lived on the Big Thompson in Colorado, and Joe and Andy were great Uncles of Milward Simpson, now Governor of Wonderful Wyoming.

"Joe Sullivan was also killed, in 1878, while riding a bad horse in the

spring roundup on what is now the place of my brother, Bill Cross, known as the Tomahawk Ranch. My father started with Joe to Fort Fetterman after his injury, but he died on the way. Father then sold his cattle and settled his estate for the family in Colorado."

"Mon, May 7 — (On the Trail). Started to Chug. Left house and stable in charge of George Levers (the blacksmith). Nooned on LaBonte and bought horse of Frenchman for 65\$. Overtook roundup and stoped on Horse Shoe."

The "Frenchman" Hunton bought his horse from was probably "a Frenchman named Flagothier" — see story of elk hunt following December 31, 1875 entry.

"Tues. May 8 — (Bordeaux). Staid at Johnson & Walkers last night. Nooned at (F. M.) Phillips and got to Ranch at sundown. Arranged with Phillips to send man with roundup with his wagon. Ditch through field just finished. Tom (Hunton) quite sick."

"Wed. May 9 — (Bordeaux). Working on ditch. Govt. pack train went north."

"Thurs. May 10 — (Bordeaux). Made head box for ditch. (Hi) Kelly here Jim Monroe here. Whitewashed hen house. Put box in ditch, raised dam and started water. Tom quite sick with

head ache and severe cold. Rained hard P. M."

Pioneer Rancher R. Roy Williams, of Sheridan, Wyoming provides this information concerning James Monroe, who may also have been known as "Missouri Jim" in the early 70's. Says Mr. Williams:

"My father came to Cheyenne in 1879 and we came to Sheridan in 1895, settling on Tongue River near where James Monroe had pre-empted 160 acres in 1889 at the mouth of Big Goose Creek. Our cabin was about half a mile from his and after we got settled he took many of his meals with us. He and father worked together much of the time.

"Monroe was a native of Clarksville, Tennessee, and served as a Union soldier during the Civil War. He was a straight six-footer with a fine head of brown, curly hair. Being illiterate he had estrayed from relatives in the east and he never mentioned anyone to us. I recall my father wrote a letter to Washington for him, asking pay for a team of mules stolen by Indians.

"James Monroe had worked as a roundup cook on Powder River and also cooked for a contractor's crew building fence around the Crow reservation in Montana. He also recalled helping build a dam across Chugwater Creek, using the hides of winter-killed cattle in its con-

struction. Monroe died at a soldiers home in Cheyenne April 27, 1898, and is buried in the G. A. R. plot there. Part of his land is in our present ranch."

"Fri, May 11 — (Bordeaux). Made axle tree for freighters. Men working on ditch got water to crossing of road in lower end of field. Haas passed on Coach to Ft. Laramie. Crowd of Chinamen and others here tonight. Tom (Hunton) no better but has severe ear ache. P. M. hard rain."

The Chinese whom Hunton mentions more than once as being among the throngs which passed through Bordeaux for the Black Hills were apparently not all lured by dreams of raw gold as were most of their white brethren. Some seemed to have in mind the turning of an honest penny by the neat trick of trying to keep those miners clean. At least two of these Celestial gentlemen, Ai Hong and Hong Lee by name, are recorded as striking out for the "Hills" with complete laundry outfits.

"Sat, May 12 — (Bordeaux). Doing nothing. Tom's ear ache worse, blood and matter running from it. House leaking all over. Rained hard all night and all this A. M."

"Sun, May 13 — (Bordeaux). Went to (John) Owens. Capt. Gillis passed to Fort Laramie. George Drake come by (Hi) Kelly's. Joe (probably Morris) passed from roundup and says all

hands dissatisfied. Received notice from Maj. Ludington that hay voucher was paid to S. & W. on the 7th inst. P. M. very hard rain.

"Mon, May 14 — (Bordeaux). Haas passed to Cheyenne. Received letter from Collins that all money for hay had been attached in his hands. I have no idea who has attached it. Sam (Groves) preparing to go to Bullock place with wire to make fence. Paid Jim off. Doctor passing along the road to "Hills" prescribed for Tom (Hunton) and left medicine for him. (T. E.) Kent passed going to roundup.

"Tues. May 15 — (Bordeaux). Sam and (Missouri) Jim went to Bullock place with wire etc to fence. Went to (Hi) Kelly's in light wagon, got bale hay. Arranged to start on roundup on the 18th. William working on ditch. Crabb's Govt. train passed from (Fort) Reno to Cheyenne. Whitcomb's old Mother-in-law come to Ranch.

"Wed. May 16 — (Bordeaux). Missouri Jim come to Ranch and reported that Bill Fleet (or Flect) had filed on land that Sam (Groves) wanted and that Sam would not fence on other side of Laramie. (Hi) Kelly's man here last night with load of hay for Stage Co.. Officially notified that I was sued by Posey Wilson.

"Thurs, May 17 — (Bordeaux). Started Jim Monroe and provisions to lower roundup with three horses.

"Fri, May 18 — (Bordeaux). William working on ditch. Black Hillers passing both ways. Billy Bacon went to lower roundup for Phillips. Baptiste (Little Bat Garnier) come to Ranch. Reports finding my "Bob" horse with Indians."

Whatever their failings and shortcomings may have been, Billy Bacon and one Jack Sanders carved a permanent nitch for themselves in Wyoming history a few years after the above entry. About December 1, 1885 they quarreled, met with blazing guns and blasted each other into eternity.

On May 4, 1950 the late C. W. (Charlie) Horr wrote his recollections of that doubly fatal duel in a letter to Wyoming State Engineer L. C. Bishop, as follows:

"Bacon came to LaBonte in about '79 and ran a road ranch at the crossing . . . Sold his (squatter's) right to Harry Pollard's father in the spring of '83 for \$5,000. Then he went to Cheyenne and was drinking and gambling, but some of his friends got him to leave, so he went back to LaBonte and bought a bunch of cows. He took the cows up to Bacon Park in June, '84. I saw him there. He had built a cabin and his wife was there in '85 or '86. He traded the cattle to Frank

Gore — 100 head — for Frank's saloon in Fetterman, so that is how he came to be in Fetterman, and Sanders owned the dance hall.

"Well, they fell out and started out to get each other. Bacon had a double barrelled shotgun and Sanders had a .45 Six-shooter. When they met Bacon shot Sanders in the stomach and Sanders shot Bacon in the throat. Sanders was badly shot and died the next day and Bacon lived about a week.

"They sent to Fort McKinney and got a young surgeon. They put Bacon on the operating table and four men held him and Fred Schwartz was one of them. The surgeon was trying to get the bullet but it slipped down Bacon's throat or wind-pipe and choked him to death."

Mr. Bishop's uncle, Alfred Bishop, came to what is now southern Wyoming with the Union Pacific Railroad in 1867 and his father, S. A. Bishop, followed in 1874. Alfred acquired a bull team and subcontracted freight hauling from John Hunton. Both men worked for him during the '70s. L. C. recalls hearing his father tell about the Bacon-Saunders (or Sanders) shooting when he was a boy, and he wrote to his old friend and neighbor Charlie Horr for details of the affair for his extensive pioneer file. Mr. Bishop received the above information from Mr. Horr shortly before his death.

The late George H. Cross, pioneer rancher in the Fetterman area, gave his daughter, Mrs. Criss Cross Morton, a somewhat different version of what happened after Bacon and Sanders shot each other. Mrs. Morton writes that the Fetterman physician, Dr. Amos Barber, was on the road from Fetterman to Rock Creek when the shooting occurred and a man was sent on horseback to try to overtake and bring him back. Meanwhile, when Sanders died, they loaded the wounded Bacon in a buckboard and started out with a fast team hoping to meet the doctor. But by the time they reached Buckshot, Billy was bleeding so badly and suffering so much that they stopped there and Sam Slaymaker and others used a spoon to try and remove the bullet, which slipped down the hapless gunman's windpipe and choked him to death. After that folks around Buckshot all talked about Billy Bacon's ghost haunting the place.

And Mrs. Pauline E. Peyton, pioneer Douglas woman, adds this aftermath:

"Bacon and Saunders were in partnership near Fetterman when they shot each other. They were buried side by side in the Old Fetterman graveyard. I have seen Mrs. Bacon pick wild flowers and put them upon both of the graves.

"My parents, (Mr. and Mrs. Edwin C. Smith) went to Fetterman and prepared those men for burial. They died a day or two apart. I cannot remember which

one lived the longer. But I have often heard my parents mention being called upon to lay them out.

"I was well acquainted with Mrs. Bacon and Eula (Erbin) whom the Bacons had taken to raise shortly before Bacon and Saunders killed one another. I have heard Mrs. Bacon say that they lived at Uva before they came to Fetterman."

"Sat. May 19 — (Bordeaux). William working on ditch and dam. Letter from Mr. Bullock. Water running all the way through long ditch.

"Sun. May 20 — (Bordeaux). Started to Bullock place. Met Sam (Groves) & (Missouri) Jim coming home with wagon, team etc and returned with them & brought "Sweepstakes" & "Kemper" bulls home and branded them 16. Hunter's Govt. train camped here. Baptiste (Little Bat) & Lallee and Old Squaw went to (Hi) Kelly's. Tom (Hunton) improving. Wrote to (Posey) Wilson and Mr. (W. G.) Bullock. Andy Carr passed to Laramie ford, says (illegible name) has appointment as Trader at Laramie."

Since J. S. Collins was Post Trader at Fort Laramie from 1872 to 1877 and his brother, G. H. Collins, from 1877 until 1882, the report Hunton received from Andy Carr that someone else had the job must have been inaccurate. The name Hunton wrote was not

Collins. It started with the letters "Sk" and then his pen slipped or the ink blurred and the rest of the name is a blotch. But Hunton's prediction that W. G. Bullock would not get the post ("His Squaw record is injuring him" — February 28th entry) proved to be correct. The terms "Sutler" and "Post Trader" refer to the same concession — a monopoly on the sale of all goods, except supplies which were issued direct to the soldiers, at our western frontier posts. It was a great political plum of that day. In 1867 or thereabout the government officially abolished the position and title of "Sutler" but thereafter, as is often the case, went right on appointing "Post Traders" with the same exclusive rights and privileges.

"Mon, May 21 — (Bordeaux).

Plowed potato patch. Gen. Crook and Capt. Randall passed north. Went to Goshens Hole, saw some deer, saw but few cattle. Newcomb come home from roundup. Breakenridge passed with horse thieves. Tearing down old shed in yard."

Organized bands of horse thieves flourished during this period. But in May of 1877 one mob went too far. After setting a group of Black Hillers afoot on the trail without either horses or weapons they proceed to steal some of Judge J. J. Hauphoff's stock from his stable at Fort Laramie and it was decided to do something. A detachment of soldiers, accompanied by Hauphoff and a man named Breakenridge went after and caught five of the

gang, turned them over to civil authorities.

*"Tues., May 22 — (Bordeaux)
(Luke) Voorhees passed to Cheyenne,
sent in bill to Stage Company. Baptiste
and Lallee started to Agency. Nice day."*

But Lallee did not stay at the agency this time, either. The paths of John Hunton and this beautiful French-Indian girl, so close for many years, did not part easily as this journal will show.

There are some vague stories of Lallee's life after Hunton's marriage in the early 80's.

She had a career as a ranch cook for many years and "took up" with a number of other men after she and Hunton parted. Dim rumor has it, however, that her romances were not long lived. Lallee grew into a still handsome but large and remarkably powerful woman. It is said that she could, with no apparent effort, snatch a hundred pound sack of flour from a wagon and carry it into her kitchen with one hand. John Hunton never forgot Lallee. A portrait painting of her hung from the wall of his favorite room when he died in 1928. When women friends of his wife, Blanche, questioned her about it she is quoted as saying simply, "It gave him pleasure — why not?"

*"Wed & Thurs, May 23, 24 —
(Bordeaux). Planting potatoes, work-
ing on furrows in upper ditch and cut-
ting sage brush."*

"Fri, May 25 — (Bordeaux)."

Cutting sage brush and cleaning off meadows. Dry creek very high last night. Chug very high today overflowing much of the meadow land. Webb and Kelly's man here to dinner on their way to roundup. Got hay advertisements and blank bids.

"Sat, May 26 — (Bordeaux). Men cutting sage brush. Newcomb come to Ranch. Newcomb, Sam (Groves) and I went to (F. M.) Phillips to round up. Found few cattle. Andy Carr returned from Agency where he recovered a few of his horses from Indians and saw others that he could not get. Thunder, showers, rain and hail.

"Sun, May 27 — (Bordeaux). Drove mine and (Hi) Kelly's cattle from roundup to Ranch and branded calves. John (Portugee) Phillips here. (John) Owens here, sold him one bull calf for 30\$.

"Mon to Thurs, May 28 to 31 — (Bordeaux). Phillips and Newcomb went to roundup. Rounded up cattle on creek and branded some calves. (Hi) Kelly and Colin Hunter joined roundup. Working on ditches, cutting sage brush."

A notation in the memoranda section of the 1877 diary dated April 15 reads, "Newcomb comcd work at 30\$ per month". Hunton's receipts for May included, "April beef voucher \$677.84". His expenditures: Mc-

Phadden for horse, \$80.00; E. J. Smith, \$350.00; H. S. Tracy, \$35.75; Kelly for saddle, \$20.00; L. P. Justy wages, \$50.00; G. L. Holt \$26.00. And on May 22, the day Lallee left for the Indian Agency, Hunton entered this expenditure, "L—e, \$4.00".

The H. S. Tracy to whom Hunton paid \$35.75 was a Cheyenne livery stable man who became one of the earliest Black Hills stage line operators. In 1875 he bought part interest in the Spotted Tail Express and Stage Co., thereafter known as the Tracy & Hoshier Line.

JUNE, 1877

"Fri, June 1 — (Bordeaux). Five companies 5th Cavalry passed going to (Ft.) Reno. Posey Wilson here and left, working on ditches.

"Sat, June 2 — (Ft. Laramie). Working on ditches. Went to Fort Laramie on Coach with George Drake and got Thompson U. S. Commissioner to certify to (F. M.) Phillips and (W. G.) Bullock as bondsmen on hay proposals.

"Sun, June 3 — (Hi) Kelly's Ranch). At Fort last night, returned on Coach and went to (Hi) Kellys in light wagon to see about roundup.

"Mon, June 4 — (Bordeaux). Returned from Kellys. Work on ditches. Bat (Little Bat Garnier) returned from Agency.

"Tues, June 5 — (With the Lower Roundup). Started to the lower roundup (Jim and gray horse Spot), went to Coffee & Webbs and met (Hi) Kelly, McUlvane & others.

"Wed, June 6 — (Coffee & Webbs Ranch). Staid last night at Coffee & Webbs. Went to 'Big Bend of Horse creek' to ranch where we heard that roundup were near Sydney and would not be on 'Horse Creek' before about the 15 or 17th inst. Got dinner and returned to Coffee & Webb's.

"Thurs. June 7 — (Bordeaux). Staid last night at Coffee & Webbs. Returned to Ranch. Antoine Janis & family stoped here going to the 'Poudre'. Sam Groves went to Bullock place, worked sorrel mares to light wagon. Assessor here."

Antoine Janis was a brother of Nick Janis, rancher and stage station operator on the North Platte near the present Wyoming-Nebraska line, with whom Hunton did much hay business. Antoine's Indian wife, according to some authorities was a daughter of Chief Red Cloud. They apparently had a considerable family.

On Christmas Day, 1872, William and Pete Janis, halfbreed sons of Antoine, were killed by Joseph and James Richard, sons of John Richard (or Reshaw) about 25 miles south of the Red Cloud sod Agency.

First hand accounts of this shooting, as given by William Sullivan, William H. Miller, W. M. Dillon, John Davidson, Mrs. Ladue and others, are still preserved in *Red Cloud Document Files*.

This information comes from Marie Sandoz, author of "Old Jules", "Crazy Horse" and other tales based on history of the Old West. Miss Sandoz sums up the circumstances leading to that tragic Christmas brawl of long ago as follows:

"This was a lurid outcome from one of the very many fueds of the day, mix-

ed with liquor, cards, guns and the three-cornered animosity of whites, breeds and Indians. In addition to the names above there are others, including Mrs. Richard, mother of the two young Richards, Paddy Miller, Baptiste Jewett, Samuel Page, Frank Gorden, Joe Richard's wife and a daughter of Nick Janis, who got hit over the head for trying to interfere.

"The shooting was chiefly in the Richard lodge, although some say shots were fired in the lodge of Pete Janis, too. When Antoine came down from Ft. Laramie he found the sons buried on a scaffold by the Indians. He had them taken to Ft. Laramie and buried there, according to this sheaf of documents."

And the bodies of William and Pete Janis are still buried in the old Fort Laramie cemetery. Mrs. Henry Nietfeld, Fort Laramie pioneer woman, recalls that not many years ago descendants of the Janis family came to Fort Laramie to visit those graves and they were guided to the headstones which still mark them. In appreciation they gave Mrs. Nietfeld a sample of exquisite bead work which they said had been made by Red Cloud's daughter.

"Fri, June 8 — (Bordeaux). Sam (Groves) returned from Laramie (river), one mare killed herself with rope last night. Sent 'Spot' horse to Newcomb by Russell. Cutting sage brush. Got horse shod for Clint Graham.

"Sat, June 9 — (Bordeaux). Sam & Jim went to Bullock place to get machine & rake. William cutting sage brush.

"Sun, June 10 — (Bordeaux). Sam & Jim returned from Bullock Place. F. M. Phillips and his roundup party arrived. Also Joe Morris.

"Mon, June 11 — (Bordeaux). General roundup on the upper Richard (Reshaw) Creek. At Ranch all day, put mower in order. Phillips here.

"Tues, June 12 — (On Roundup). Went to roundup at Colin Hunter's and McUlvane's. Found but few cattle. Men working on ditch and fence.

"Wed, June 13 — (Bordeaux). Rounded up at Ranch. Took all day to work the cattle, got but eight calves. (F. M.) Phillips corralled here tonight. (Hi) Kelly here. General camp on Richard (Reshaw) Creek. 'L.' went to Laramie River. Received notice that I have been offered beef at (Fort) Fetterman."

Assuming that "L." was Lallee, it would appear that this young French-Indian woman, now footloose and fancy free, made it clear in short order that she had no intention of settling down with the Indians on their reservation, as Mr. Hunton obviously intended she should.

For Hunton's bid on furnishing beef to the military at Ft. Fetterman see May 2nd entry.

"Thurs, June 14 — (Bordeaux). Worked the 'cavy' on Richard creek. Got 21 head, 4 calves. (F. M.) Phillips here tonight. Working on ditch.

"Fri, June 15 — (Fort Laramie). Phillips cattle all broke corral last night. Started to lower roundup. Went via Fort Laramie with Baptiste (Little Bat Garnier) in wagon. 'Bat' to agency with ---- (illegible word). Am unwell, got medicine of Dr. Hartsuff.

"Sat, June 16 — (Fort Laramie). At Fort last night. Saw Lallee this morning on her way to Ranch with 'Big Bats' woman who was taking mare to horse. Heard I was lowest bidder on hay at (Fts.) Fetterman & Reno. Accepted Fetterman beef (contract) by telegraph.

"Sun, June 17 — (Nick Janis Ranch). At Post last night. Started to meet lower roundup. Went as far as old (Indian) agency.

"Mon, June 18 — (On Horse Creek). Staid at Nick Janis last night. Hay looking short on the Platte. Charly Mathews building on bottom opposite agency. Went to Ranch at mouth of 'Horse Creek'. Provines the tax collector there. Roundup will be here tomorrow. Heavy rain and hail on Chug and 'Hunton Creek' washed bridges away."

The old original Red Cloud Indian agency to which Hunton refers in the two above

items was located on the Platte river near the mouth of Horse Creek, a few miles east of the present Wyoming-Nebraska line.

"Tues, June 19 — (Lower Round-up). Mouth of 'Horse Creek'. Roundup arrived. (Hi) Kelly & my outfit all right but have but few cattle.

"Wed, June 20 — (Lower Round-up). Moved to 'Cold Springs'. Rounded up, cut out and moved on to Drips Stone Ranch. Coffee and others branded calves.

"Thurs, June 21 — (Fort Laramie). Rounded up, cut out and moved to Cherry Creek. Our outfit remains here to go to Coffees tomorrow. Have about 400 head cattle in cavy. Made small roundup at Bordeaux' old Ranch and got few head. I went to Fort (Laramie).

"Fri, June 22—(Roundup) Staid at Fort last night. Rejoined roundup at Coffees. Worked two bunches cattle and got about 40 calves and 140 brand cattle. Quite dusty work. (Hi) Kelly joined us here. Sam (Groves) & Charly come to meet.

"Sat, June 23 — (Roundup). Rounded up from Alkali to Coffees and got about 2,000 cattle. I got few of mine. Found two mules on Alkali. Nice day but dusty.

"Sun, June 24 — (Camp at Head of Box Elder). Cut up cavy, McUlvane and

all others taking their cattle from (Hi) Kelly's and mine. We drove ours to head of Box Elder. Sent Sam (Groves) for grub and bedding. Sam, (Billy) Bacon & Baptiste (Little Bat Garnier) met us here. Lost some cows and calves. 10 P.M. light rain. Moonlight night and a very fine Rain Bow. Perfect. (The words "Rain Bow. Perfect." underscored by Mr. Hunton). Holding cattle.

"Mon, June 25 — (Bordeaux). (Hi) Kelly and I separate our cattle and each drive home. Got home 2 P.M. with about 150 cattle and 42 'SO' calves, 3 'LD' calves, one '16' calf. Branded them all and turned loose. (Joe) Morris with (F. M.) Phillips men here with what cattle they found on roundup. On arriving home found that Lallee had left with all her clothes and bedding. Nice day."

The 'SO' brand was used on Wyoming's first herd of cattle (other than work cattle), brought into the valley of the Laramie in 1868 by W. G. Bullock and B. B. Mills. When Mills died in 1871 John Hunton bought his interest. The famous brand later passed to J. M. Carey & Brother. 'LD' was the brand Hunton used on his work cattle, to distinguish them from the beef animals he owned in partnership with Bullock.

"Tues, June 26 — (Bordeaux). Morris and party left.

"Wed, June 27 — (Bordeaux). Working on dams, hauling sage brush.

etc. Capt. Monahan here last night. Telegraphed Maj. Ludington I would put in all hay at (Fort) Reno at contract price that could be cut within 40 miles of Post. Mr. (W. G.) Bullock come to Ranch.

"Thurs. June 28 — (Bordeaux). Working on dams & ditches.

"Fri. June 29 — (Bordeaux). Rounded up all the cattle I could find and branded few Calves. Mo. Jim come to Ranch last night. Three coach robberies this week aggregating nearly twenty thousand dollars. Received Notice from Chief Q.M. that (Forts) Fetterman and Reno hay contract had been awarded me."

Again we must refer to Agnes Wright Spring's book, "Cheyenne and Black Hills Stage Routes", in which she has compiled quite a remarkable record of stage coach hold-ups during that "reign of terror" which prevailed on the gold dust trail during the 70's, because we wish to take the liberty of briefly summarizing a few of her stories which tie in with this journal.

Here is how George Drake became a stage driver, and one of his adventures. William Pye (apparently a bad egg, see March 3rd entry) was discharged from his job of looking after the stage company's horses at Bordeaux and Drake took his place (January 18 entry). He soon graduated from tending stock and started driving stage February 6 (see entry that date). On June 2nd Hunton records that he, "Went to Fort Laramie on Coach with George

Drake", but makes no mention of a holdup — perhaps George was one of those modest young men who do not talk about themselves. Mrs. Spring, however, says that on the night of June 1, 1877 the "down stage", with Driver George Drake, was stopped by road agents a few miles north of Hat Creek station, but when the armed passengers, presumably with guns in hand, piled out of the vehicle the bandits went away from there.

The three-in-a-week robberies which Hunton had in mind above were probably these—

The night of June 25th a stage was halted as it slowly pulled out of a draw or gully. The coach curtains were drawn and its passengers asleep. But they had a rude awakening and later reported the following losses: F. B. Reed, of Denver, \$120 and a \$400 ring; Garrett Crystal, freighter, \$700; Alex. Francais, \$300 and a miner named Irwin, \$198. The "treasure box" on this coach was said to be empty, which made the robbers swear but did not discourage them.

June 26 they held up the stage near Cheyenne River. From passengers the five-man gang netted three gold watches and \$400 in cash. Then they blew the lock off the "treasure box" which was not empty this time. There was also some shooting. Driver Hawley wounded.

The very next day, June 27, another stage got it in the same vicinity and the robbers made off with two "treasure boxes" but

did not molest the passengers who are listed as: Mrs. M. G. Tonn, Miss M. M. Bogy, J. W. Miner, Dr. J. L. Edwards, W. L. G. Soule, Charles Wilson and Pat Keeley. Adding insult to injury, the robbers sent a message to Luke Voorhees, via the driver, requesting that "treasure boxes" be sent loose in the coaches thereafter to save them the trouble of unbolting them and they also asked Mr. Voorhees to send them a pair of gold dust scales so they would not have to divide up their loot with a spoon.

When Bandit "Reddy" McKenna was finally captured he claimed all three of the above jobs for his gang — Clark Pelton, alias Billy Webster, Dunc Blackburn, James Wall and Bill Blivins (or Bevans). The law had been after Mr. Blivins for quite some time (see April 8 entry).

There was also a lady member of their mob whom Mr. McKenna, with commendable delicacy, did not name. Years later Calamity Jane said she was the gal. Mrs. Spring doubts it.

"Sat. June 30 — (Johnson & Walker Ranch). Started to (Fort) Fetterman. Baptiste (Little Bat Garnier) & Mo. Jim with me. Nooned on N. Lar-amie and bargained with Bill Waln to haul hay. Horse Shoe before night."

W. L. Waln was a freighter and early settler on Horseshoe Creek. Mrs. Trenholm in her "Footprints on the Frontier" says that Mrs. Waln was the first white woman in that

area, settling in 1882 on the claim that was to be their home for thirty years, where they raised a family of eight. Mrs. Waln took frontier life and its hardships in her stride. A great blizzard struck during the winter of 1883 while her husband was away, catching Mrs. Waln and her baby boy (also born when she was alone) in an old trapper's cabin on the McFarlane place. There she was trapped by the storm and did not see a soul for 28 days. During that period she tended her baby, the horse, cow and pigs, shoveling snow off the rotten roof of the shack to keep it from collapsing in between times — all in the day's work.

Although Mr. Hunton's business prospects appear bright for the future, with his contracts to supply Fort Reno with hay and Fort Fetterman with both hay and beef, he shows actual receipts of only \$15, from Capt. Gillis, for the month of June. His expenses were light, too — telegraphing \$20, hotel bill \$7.00, cigars etc \$5.50 and paid Newcom (Newcomb) \$90.00.

JULY, 1877

"Sun, July 1 — (Fort Fetterman). Staid at J & W's (Johnson & Walkers) last night. Heard that J. R. Smith had gone below to buy beef. Got to Milk Ranch (on LaPrele) 2 P.M. Got dinner and went to Fort. (N) Kipp and Tom drove in beef and butchered.

"Mon, July 2 — (Box Elder Ranch). At Fort last night. Prosed (proposed) to Chief Q.M. to put in additional hay at (Fort) Reno for 65\$ per ton. Telegraphed (Charly) Clay about working on hay. Went to Box Elder, (N.) Kipp with me. Find grass and cattle looking well.

"Tues, July 3 — (Fort Fetterman). Staid at Box Elder last night. Bargained with George McMillan to herd cattle and turned them over to him. Branded calves and went to Post.

"Wed, July 4 — (Camp on La Bonte). Kipp and I settled up. Telegraphed John Sechler about cutting hay. (George) Powell started to (Fort) Reno to haul logs. Started to Chug (Bordeaux), Tom Mathews and Kipp with me and Bat (Garnier). Camped on La-Bontee. Paymaster Thornburg camped there. Nice day but very warm.

"Thurs, July 5 — (Camp on Cottonwood). Went to Red Bluffs and

found the hay bottom fenced in. Camped on Cotton Wood. Bat killed a deer.

"Fri, July 6 — (Bordeaux). Camped on Cottonwood last night, went via Fort Laramie. Telegram from Cottier wanting to haul hay. Ansd. that he could haul at Reno. Got to Ranch 11 P.M. Sam (Groves) here with four mowers. Newcomb brought 80 cattle from round-up. 25 calves with them."

David Cottier worked for B. B. Mills as a cow hand with Wyoming's first herd of beef cattle which ranged on Chugwater creek. In the spring of 1870 while he was in Fort Laramie with a wagon after supplies the cow camp was attacked by Indians and two of his fellow herders, John Boyd and William Aug, narrowly escaped with their lives after a running fight up the Chug to a settlement at Point of Rocks.

"Sat, July 7 — (Bordeaux). Branded calves. Fixed grind stones. Herman Hass (Haas) passed to Cheyenne, paid him 50\$. Comcd mowing."

Herman Haas, who came to the west from Prussia, was a Cheyenne blacksmith and wagon maker with the reputation of being one of the most skilled workmen in the territory. He also handled the popular Bain wagons of that day. Ox yokes and bows were among his specialties.

"Sun, July 8 — (Bordeaux). Went to Charly Clays and returned. Sent Sam

(Groves) to Cheyenne after wagon and harness. Surveyor Rogers (or Rogus) passed. Mowing hay. Bargained with Colin Hunter for his bull teams. Smith & Lord down from Fetterman.

"Mon, July 9 — (Bordeaux). Running two machines making hay.

"Tues, July 10 — (Bordeaux). Making hay.

"Wed, July 11 — (Bordeaux). Making hay. Bent cutter bar to new machine and sent new one. Sent Col. Bacon to meet Bill Waln.

"Thurs, July 12 — (Bordeaux). Making hay. Hired two bull whackers. Sam (Groves) returned with new wagon & harness. Old Mr. Clay here visiting Mr. Bullock."

The "Old Mr. Clay" was, presumably Charly Clay's father and a cousin of Statesman Henry Clay, out here from Virginia visiting his old friend W. G. Bullock, also from Virginia, where the Clays and Bullocks are said to have been close friends and among the "first families" of that Old Dominion state. Hunton was also a Virginian.

"Fri, July 13 — (Breckenridge Ranch). Men all making hay. Went to Fort Laramie to see Dave Cottier and others. Saw Cottier, Posey Ryan and others and contracted with them to deliver 333 tons hay to Quartermaster at Reno for \$30 per ton, I to furnish two (mowing)

machines and one rake, extras, oil etc. Saw Bill Waln and arranged with him to run bull teams."

Posey Ryan, a native of Ireland, was destined for a life of violence and tragedy. In 1909 he was the principal in one of the most dramatic trials Wyoming has ever known, and convicted of second degree murder for killing his wife and step-daughter. Public opinion divided sharply over the verdict and feeling ran high throughout the state. This journal will cover that tragedy and the trial in considerable detail for Hunton was a familiar friend of the family.

Novelist Olga Moore Arnold became a child friend of Posey Ryan when she was a little girl in Buffalo and he was living out his last days at the Old Soldiers Home in that picturesque frontier town. Mrs. Arnold recalls him as "... a delightful old gentleman whom we used to meet on the streets of Buffalo or sitting placidly in the lobby of the Occidental. He was a giant of a man with deep, sparkling, Irish blue eyes, and very courteous manners. I can see why there was sentiment for acquittal!" And she writes this touching account of his passing: "He died at the Old Soldiers' Home in Buffalo, a peaceful, tranquil death while 'baby sitting', with the little child of the care-taker. Just dozed off ... with the baby perched on his lap. When the mother returned from whatever errand had taken her away, she found the baby peacefully sleeping

in Posey's arms and Posey peacefully sleeping in eternal arms. Ironical, but sort of beautiful, end to a stormy life."

"Sat, July 14 — (Bordeaux). Staid at Breakenridges last night. Took three bull whackers in wagon with me. Got to Ranch to dinner. Mr. Bullock gone to Cheyenne. Waln and men went to (Colin) Hunters. Making hay.

"Sun, July 15 — (Bordeaux). Taken very sick last night. Sent 'Bat' (Little Bat Garnier) to (Fort) Laramie for a doctor. David Cottier and party loaded (mowing) machines, rake and grub and started to (Fort) Reno. Sam Dion got new wagon. Quite sick all day.

"Mon, July 16 — (Bordeaux). Doctor Hartsuff here last night and prescribed for me. Sent him back this mornin, paid him 55\$ for the visit which is robbery. I & W. W. Sullivan got machines & rake started to (Fort) Fetterman to cut hay. Lower roundup party returned and were paid off. Hot & dry.

"Tues, July 17 — (Bordeaux). Still quite sick. (Hi) Kelly, (John) Owens and Breakenridge here to dinner.

"Wed, July 18 — (Bordeaux). Quite sick. Waln started to Fetterman with the Hunter & Abbott bull outfit I bought of them, 19 yoke cattle and 4 wagons. Sent grub etc by them.

"Thurs, July 19 — (Bordeaux). Still sick abed. Still hot and dry.

"Fri, July 20 — (Bordeaux) Sick abed. Sent three men to Coffee & Webbs to get beef cattle.

"Sat, July 21 — (Bordeaux). Sick abed. Bought John Ramsey's two bull teams.

"Sun, July 22 (Bordeaux). Sick abed. Ramsey started to Fetterman with his two teams. Cuny killed at Six Mile Ranch. Hot and dry."

Adolph Cuny was killed by Clark Pelton, one of the better known road agents of the day, who also went under the name of Billy Webster. It happened shortly after Cuny had helped Deputy Sheriff Hays of Fort Laramie place Pelton and a fellow bandit, Dunc Blackburn, under arrest for the series of stage holdups a few weeks earlier (see June 29th entry). After shooting Cuny, who died instantly, the two desperadoes escaped and continued on their merry criminal way for some time thereafter. But Pelton was finally brought to trial, about two years later, for Cuny's murder. He was convicted of manslaughter and got a light sentence.

The Six Mile Ranch, so called because located six miles south of Fort Laramie, was a tough "Hog Ranch", plenty of whiskey and women in soldier clothing, plenty of fighting and murders, too. For a detailed record of Six

Mile killings see Hunton's score card following February 1, 1875 entry.

"Mon, July 23 — (Bordeaux). Sick abed. Soldiers passed hunting Cuny's murderers.

"Tues, July 24 — (Bordeaux). Sick abed, but improving very little. Maj. Stiles passed to Laramie last night. Still hot & dry, windy.

"Wed, July 25 — (Bordeaux). Sick abed. Men got back from Webb & Coffees with 50 beef cows and some stock cattle. Making hay.

"Thurs, July 26 — (Bordeaux). Started Tom Mathews and Charly Wild to (Fort) Fetterman with beef herd. Newcomb comcd cooking."

The above entry was all made in ink except the last sentence. Apparently as an afterthought Hunton scrawled "Newcomb comcd cooking" with a pencil. Probably it was quite important to have a cook after being "sick abed" for ten days, but whether he was moved to record the event by the excellence of Hired Man Newcomb's cooking or vice versa we shall never know.

"Fri, July 27 — (Bordeaux). Making hay. Hired hand to help stack. Am improving some in health. Rode up in the hay field.

"Sat, July 28 — (Johnson & Walker Ranch). Started to (Fort) Fetterman. Bat (Garnier) with. Traveling in wagon.

"Sun. July 29 — (Milk Ranch on LaPrele). Camped at J. & W.'s last night. Men there with cattle. Nooned at (W. M.) Daily's. Got to Milk (Ranch) 5 P. M.

"Mon. July 30 — (Fort Fetterman). Had wagon fixed. Went to Post in afternoon. Beeves got to Box Elder.

"Tues. July 31 — (Milk Ranch). Staid at Post last night. Went to Milk Ranch and to Box Elder and back to Milk Ranch to see Tom Mathews. Charly Wily went to train. Train having (hay) racks made and went to Deer creek today."

Although Hunton was carrying on a far-flung hay and beef business his receipts were almost nil during July except for these items, some of which were probably loans: from Thos Mathews \$450; Sam Dion \$175; John Owens \$30; W. M. Daily \$100 and "returned from harness" \$80. His expenditures' included: "Sent for harness" \$175; Sullivan for freight \$81.85; Taylor for freight \$31.13; Dr. Hartsuff \$55 (the "robbery" item); Jim Monroe \$70 and Clark \$60.00.

Subsequent memoranda will indicate that Hunton actually operated during 1877 on substantial credit furnished by the First National Bank of Omaha.

AUGUST, 1877

"Wed, Aug 1 — (Hay Camp on Deer Creek). Tom Mathews started to Chug (Bordeaux). Went via Post (Fetterman) & Box Elder to Deer Creek. Train loading. Left check for \$100 with Missouri Jim to get cashed and pay Slaymaker 40\$ for Cav. Companies rations. Staid at Milk Ranch last night.

"Thurs, Aug 2 — (Hay Cutter's Camp). Staid with train at hay camp on Deer Creek last night. Went to hay cutters' camp at mouth Deer Creek. Found them getting along very well.

"Fri, Aug 3 — (Hay Cutters' Camp). Staid at hay cutters' camp last night. Caught some fish. Killed two deer.

"Sat, Aug 4 — (Camp on the Platte). Staid at hay cutters' camp last night. Went up the Platte above the mouth of Muddy. found some hay and marked place for cutters to go to work. Cutters finished at mouth Deer Creek. 'Bat' (Little Bat Garnier) killed four deer.

"Sun, Aug 5 — (Cutters' Camp on Platte). Staid on Platte last night. Went up against the Casper Mountain to find hay. Found some. We killed four deer and two antelope. Cutters moved up to bottom on Platte.

"Mon, Aug 6 — (Cutters' Camp on

Platte). Staid at cutters' camp last night. Bat killed three deer.

"Tues. Aug 7 — (Cutters' Camp on Platte). Staid with cutters on Platte last night. We killed coyote, antelope, otter and two beaver. Move two miles up the Platte.

"Wed. Aug 8 — (Base of Casper Mountain). Staid with cutters last night. Moved to Casper (Mountain)."

The present city of Casper, known as the oil capital of the Rocky Mountain region, was named in memory of young Lt. Caspar Collins. He and eight enlisted men lost their lives in 1865 when they were surrounded and killed by Indians while trying to rescue a besieged wagon train near a bridge across the North Platte River between Deer Creek and Rock Creek. For the next twenty years or more the present site of Casper remained a sage brush flat where wild game and rattlesnakes roamed. The first human inhabitant of record was a man named John Merritt, said to have settled there in 1888 to get in on the ground floor following news that the flat was to be the north terminal of a new railroad. Others followed him and the first train reached Casper in early summer of that year. George Mitchell, one of Platte county's best known pioneers, built Casper's first house, near the depot, and operated a lumber yard. He also became Casper's first mayor when the new town was incorporated in 1889. Such was the beginning

of Wyoming's largest city and industrial center.

"Thurs, Aug 9 — (Base of Casper Mountain). Staid at Casper (Mountain) last night. Went to Red Butts, found some hay. Cutters at work at Casper. Killed three deer.

"Fri, Aug 10 — (Box Elder Ranch). Staid at Casper (Mountain) last night. Cutters at work here. Started to (Fort) Fetterman.

"Sat, Aug 11 — (Fort Fetterman). Staid at Box Elder last night. 9 A.M. arrived at Fetterman. Train only made one trip hay. Waln's teams arrived and gone with train. Fisher putting in hay, some rejected by. Letters from Reno say haying getting along badly there. Will start there tomorrow. Had tire set on light wagon.

"Sun, Aug 12—(Camp on Humpherville). At Fetterman last night. Wrote Sam Groves to bring herd to Box Elder. Started to (Fort) Reno. Nooned at Brown Springs. Met Col. Ludington and went into camp on Humpherville Creek. Had talk with Col. L about additional hay at Reno and will try to put in additional quantity required.

"Mon, Aug 13 — (Fort Reno). Started at Sunrise. Overtook Crocket and took him in with me. Nooned on 'Dry Fork.' Arrived at Reno 3 P.M. One trip hay in. Several parties cutting hay.

"Tues, Aug 14 — (Fort Reno). Remained all day at Reno. Saw Powell. Am stoping with Snyder. Made written application to Capt. Pollock for guard for hay camp but could not get it."

Old Fort Reno, reactivated by General Crook as an advance base for his 1876 campaign against the Sioux, was located in what is now Johnson county, Wyoming — roughly 60 miles north of Casper and some 40 miles southeast of Buffalo, as the crow flies.

"Wed. Aug 15 — (Hay Camp on Crazy Woman). Started for hay camp and to look for hay as far as Goose Creek. Nooned on Crazy Woman (creek). Found hay party on north fork of Crazy Woman, loaded and ready to start in."

"Thurs, Aug 16 — (Camp on Piney). Left wagon at hay camp and started horseback with pack animal to look for hay. Nooned on creek north of Clear Creek. Traveled close to the (Big Horn) mountains. Crossed the road south of Lake DeSmidt (DeSmet) and went to Piny (Piney creek). Found some hay on Piny. Game very scarce in country. Nice day, very warm."

"Fri, Aug 17 — (Cavalry Camp on North Goose Creek). Staid on Piny last night. Started early and passed old Fort Phil Kearny (Kearney). Skirted the mountains and nooned on Goose Creek. Got to cavalry camp on North Goose

Creek in afternoon. Found some hay in small patches of 20 to 30 tons. Hostile indians in country, scout out but did not find them. One of Brown & Yates teamsters killed and wagon master wounded and their horses stolen. Cavalry commcd preparing to move. Nice day."

The "Brown & Yates" teamster who was killed may have been an employee of Frank Yates and his father-in-law, Captain W. H. Brown, also known as F. D. Yates and Company, who sent the first passenger, mail and express stage coach rolling from Cheyenne north to Custer City in January of 1876. This highly adventurous and hazardous business was relatively short-lived. The last stage north to the "Hills" left Cheyenne's Inter-Ocean Hotel with much nostalgic pomp and ceremony eleven years later, February 19, 1887. It was drawn by six beautiful horses driven by George Lathrop. The railroad, creeping steadily northward, had reached Chugwater and Cheyenne's stage coach days were over.

"Sat, Aug 18 — (Cavalry Camp on North Goose). Staid last night at cavalry camp, and went back to Piny with them today. Can hear of but little hay except in small quantities.

"Sun, Aug 19 — (Cavalry Camp on Shell Creek). Went down Piny and to south of it in the hi'ls. Cavalry moved to She'l Creek. Bat (Little Bat Garnier) found nice hay S. E. of Lake DeSchmidt

(DeSmet) 6 miles distant. Went back to Cavalry camp.

"Mon, Aug 20 — (Cavalry Camp on Shell Creek). Staid at cavalry camp last night. Remained in camp all day resting our horses which are considerably jaded. Wagon and pack trains start to Reno.

"Tues, Aug 21 — (Hay Camp probably on Crazy Woman). Staid at cavalry camp last night. Started to Reno. Nooned on Clear Creek. No hay. Got to hay camp 5 P.M. Found them loading.

"Wed, Aug 22 — (Fort Reno). Staid at hay camp last night. Got to (Fort) Reno 3 P.M. Horses in Q. M. corral."

In his history of the life of Little Bat (Baptiste Garnier), which may be found following the entry of December 3, 1875, Mr. Hunton writes that this search for hay across the entire north half of the Territory of Wyoming, from Ft. Fetterman to the present site of the City of Sheridan, took place "In June and July 1877". Although he was usually extremely accurate and meticulous in such matters the above entries establish that the trip was actually made in August 1877. During June and July of that year Hunton's time was largely taken up with the "lower roundup" on the Platte, preliminary preparations to fulfill his large government hay contracts, the aftermath of domestic upheaval and that serious illness

which laid him low shortly after Lallee left Bordeaux with her bed and clothing. He did not start north on his search for new hay meadows to conquer until the first week in August.

"Thurs. Aug 23 — (Fort Reno). Staid at Reno last night. Stopped with Snyder. Man named Ward promised to put in hay.

"Fri. Aug 24 — (Fort Reno). Staid at Reno last night. Hay wagons in. Bought rations for hay party of Capt. Pollock. Bargained for Smith's hay at 47\$ per ton.

"Sat. Aug 25 — (Camp on Humpherville Creek). Staid at Reno last night. Started to (Fort) Fetterman. Nooned at Antelope Springs.

"Sun. Aug 26 — (Fort Fetterman). Staid last night at Humpherville Creek. Breakfasted at Brown Springs. Got to Fetterman 2 P. M. Telegraphed for gun springs. Stopped at Post. Bat went to Ranch (Milk Ranch on LaPrele). Only three trips hay in. Train gone to Casper (Mountain).

"Mon. Aug 27 — (Fort Fetterman). At Post last night. Doing nothing.

"Tues. Aug 28 — (Fort Fetterman). At Post; nothing doing. Moore's herd passed and will stop on north side Platte.

"Wed, Aug 29 — (Fort Fetterman). At Post. Doing nothing.

"Thurs, Aug 30 — (Fort Fetterman). At Post. Nothing doing. Brig. (Brigham?) Young died.

"Fri, Aug 31 — (Fort Fetterman). At Post doing nothing. Powell arrived. Mail arrived. Bought shotgun. Taylor, a cattle man, come to Fetterman."

Mr. Hunton probably felt the need of and was having a few days relaxation at Ft. Fetterman following his strenuous trip and search for hay into the hostile north country. It is often possible to tell at a glance whether he was either "relaxing" or under some strong emotional influence. The effect on his handwriting was about the same. It changes completely from rather small and precise script to a large and often hard-to-read scrawl.

Hunton's financial transactions of record during August were negligible. On the second he gave L. P. Justy a check for \$100 and Mr. Justy in turn paid Waln \$40 and Slaymaker \$5, presumably on Hunton's account. The only money he notes receiving was \$15 from Sam Spaulding on the 14th and \$44 from Baptiste Garnier on the 19th. He lumps "Incidental expenses Fetterman & Reno etc." at \$18.00.

SEPTEMBER, 1877

"Sat. Sept 1 — (Fort Fetterman). Train arvd with hay at big bottom. Raining.

"Sun. Sept 2 — Train Camp. Rained all night and all day today.

"Mon. Sept 3 — Train camp. Stuarts herd camped above Milk Ranch going East. Sam Groves and party arrived at Milk Ranch with cattle herd. Man accidentally killed himself at the Six Mile Ranch on LaParelle (LaPrele). Rained all night hard. A. M. rained. P. M. cloudy.

"Tues. Sept 4 — (Milk Ranch on LaPrele). Train in camp. Hay too wet to unload. Herd went to Box Elder. Powell started to Med (Medicine) Bow. Very muddy.

"Wed. Sept 5 — (Fort Fetterman). Train moved in, weighed hay and comcd unloading. At Ranch last night. Sam (Groves) & Newcomb tearing down stable. Nice day.

"Thurs. Sept 6 — (Fort Fetterman). Went to Deer Creek. Woolcot's cattle destroying hay at mouth of Deer Creek. Cutting party through work and leaving.

"Fri. Sept 7 — (Milk Ranch on LaPrele). Train finished unloading, weighed wagons, loaded stable and started to Box Elder and Deer Creek. Mails in from

Reno & East. Train didn't move. Got voucher for 76 tons (Fort) Reno hay. Sullivans at Ranch.

"Sat, Sept 8 — (Milk Ranch). Went to Post (Fetterman). Sam (Groves) went to Box Elder. George Drake & Babcock come over. Got voucher for 148 tons hay. Went to Ranch. Rained all night.

"Sun, Sept 9 — (Johnson & Walker Ranch). Started to Ranch (Bordeaux) with Drake, Babcock, Newcomb & Mr. Taylor. Nooned on LaBonte. Got to J. & W. (Johnson & Walker) 3 P. M. Saw Charly Clay. J. & W. paid me \$400 for bulls.

"Mon, Sept 10 — (Bordeaux). Staid at J & W's last night. Got to Ranch (Bordeaux) 2½ P. M. Everything getting along all right. Changed clothes and started for Cheyenne on Coach.

"Tues, Sept 11 — Enroute to Omaha. Coach late. Got to Cheyenne 3 P. M. and took train for Omaha. Saw Frank Yates and others.

"Wed, Sept 12 — (Omaha). Got to Omaha 4:30. Stopped at Grand Central. Very warm.

"Thurs, Sept 13 — (Enroute to Chicago). Arranged with 1st National Bank to take hay vouchers and advance me 90 percent of their face. Started to Chicago to buy hay press.

"Fri, Sept 14 — (Chicago). Arrived in Chicago 4:35. Traveled from Cheyenne in company with Gen. Crook. Quite warm traveling. Vistied McVickers Theatre and saw Booth in 'Brutus'.

"Sat, Sept 15 — (Chicago). Visited Exposition. Saw much machinery and many things new to me. Bought hay press and wire. Visited Hooleys Theatre and saw Barrett in Richard Third.

"Sun, Sept 16 — (Chicago). A.M. at hotel. P.M. took carriage and drove about the city. Saw Water Works. Lincoln Park, etc. Visited Ellisiurn Theatre and other places. Saw the nude beer jerkers.

"Mon, Sept 17 — (Chicago). Visited the Exposition and other places. Made some purchases. Went to Hooleys Theatre saw Barrett in Julius Ceasar.

"Tues, Sept 18 — (Enroute to Cheyenne). Started home by Rock Island Road. Nice day's run. Nice day.

"Wed, Sept 19 — (Enroute). Got to Omaha. Heard of train on U. P. R. R. being robbed at Big Springs last night. Started to Cheyenne on U. P. train in car Silver City. Saw Maj. Morton who introduced me to a Mrs. Budd of Stockton, Cal. Will Swan on train."

That U. P. train robbery at Big Springs, Nebraska, the night of September 18, 1878, was a big one. Masked men made off with an

estimated \$70,000 in money and other loot taken from the express car and passengers. In the mob were such well known stage coach robbers as Joel Collins, Sam Bass, Bill Heffridge and Jim Berry. Credit for ultimate capture of this gang is given to U. S. Deputy Marshal M. F. Leach, of Ogallala, Nebraska. Mr. Hunton missed the exciting adventure by lingering just one day too long among the delights of Chicago.

William Swan, son of Henry Swan and nephew of Alexander H. Swan, was one of the four fabulous Scotsmen destined to build Wyoming's greatest cattle dynasty. The Swans started cattle operations in Wyoming Territory about 1873. The rise of their business was meteoric, its fall terrific. In 1883 a loan was floated among Scottish investors and William is credited with launching the L7 Cattle Company while Alexander organized the Sawn Land and Cattle Company. By 1887, year of the crash, more than 100,000 head of Swan cattle were grazing the overcrowded range and the company's book assets totaled some three million dollars. Then the great blizzards came. Banks, business houses and lesser cattle men, including Hunton, went broke with them. It was the end of an era. This journal will have considerably more to say about those days of disaster for Wyoming's earliest cattle barons.

*"Thurs, Sept 20 — (Cheyenne).
Got to Cheyenne. George Drake waiting
for me. Paid some of my debts. Heard*

F. M. Phillips was married to a Miss Miller, of Memphis, Tenn. Bought clothing for myself and men."

It will be recalled that Hunton's neighbor, F. M. (Butcher) Phillips, had "thrown away his squaw" but kept his children (see March 7th entry). The children were Lucy and George, whom he sent away somewhere to be educated. Then, the story goes, Mr. Phillips married an opera singer he met in Chicago. "Miss Miller, of Memphis, Tenn," no doubt. She must have wanted to get away from it all. How this romance turned out we do not know but will hazard a guess that both parties had a few "adjustments" to make.

"Fri, Sept 21 — (Cheyenne). In Cheyenne all day. Tried to see Gov. (John M.) Thayer in behalf of Dan Titus. Haas promised to work for Dan's release.

"Sat, Sept 22 — (Enroute). Started to Chug. Nooned at Bards. Dry & dusty.

"Sun, Sept 23 — (Bordeaux). Staid at (Hi) Kellys last night. Kelly's brick house progressing. Got home before noon. Rode out to look for cattle.

"Mon, Sept 24 — (Big Bat's place). Went to F. M. Phillips and paid him what I owed him. Saw the E. Coffee & Cuny mules, all in bad condition. (George) Drake with me.

"Tues, Sept 25 — (Fort Laramie).

Staid last night at Big Bat's (Baptiste Pourier). Lot of Indians there. Went to Post. Sent (E.) Nagle check to pay Sullivan bill — 65\$.

"Wed, Sept 26 — (F. M. Phillips' Ranch). Staid at Post last night. Had Jim horse shod at Rights. Went to Phillips'. Rounding up cattle. Paid Patton 30\$ on his hay.

"Thurs, Sept 27 — (Phillips Ranch). Rounding up cattle at Phillips.

"Fri, Sept 28 — (Bordeaux). At Phillips last night. Rounded up below Beaver House. Went home (T. A.) Kent here and went back to Phillips to sell Smith his cattle. Bought Russell's hay on Platte at Bulls Bend.

"Sat, Sept 29 — (Bordeaux). Gathered few cattle and some calves up dry creek. Wilson, Durbin, Kelly, Kipp and C. Hunter here to dinner. Kent returned. Sold his cattle to Smith for 20\$ for cows and 30\$ for steers.

"Sun, Sept 30 — (Bordeaux). Gathered few cattle and calves. Got the Phillips' cows for beef, 150 head. Cut and corralled the herd. Heck Reel here to-night."

Mr. Hunton received \$350.74 from the government for beef during September, 1877. Other receipts included \$125 from W. H. Murphy, \$400 from a Mrs. Good and \$40 (for bulls) from Johnson & Walker. But his

many recorded expenditures for the month added up to nearly \$2,000. Among them were: R. R. fare to Omaha \$65, expense going to Chicago \$23.50; that hay press he bought in Chicago \$840.00, fare from Chicago to Cheyenne \$54.00 and hotel in Chicago \$15.00. A puzzler is why he had to pay \$65 R. R. fare from Cheyenne to Omaha but apparently only \$54 for his return ticket from Chicago to Cheyenne. Perhaps some railroad tariff man knows the answer to that one.

On September 13th Mr. Hunton made this memorandum: "Deposited voucher for 148 tons hay with 1st National Bank of Omaha for collection and give my note for \$4765. Bal. due me on voucher less 10 pr. ct. retained \$529.47." This would seem to indicate that Mr. Hunton got an advance of about \$32 per ton on that hay.

OCTOBER. 1877

"Mon, Oct 1 — (F. M. Phillips' Ranch). Started to (Ft.) Fetterman with cattle. George Drake in charge. Billy Bacon and Wm. Hinson (?) helping to drive. Went to Phillips and branded.

"Tues, Oct 2 — (On Horseshoe). Staid at Phillips last night. Herd went to Cottonwood. I went to Horse Shoe. Met Sam Groves going to meet herd.

"Wed, Oct 3 — (Fort Fetterman). Went to Fetterman. Everything running tolerably well.

"Thurs, Oct 4 — (Fort Fetterman). At Fetterman all day. Train in. Saw Waln and told him what to do. Jim went for beef. Got voucher and sent it with note for \$4050 to 1st National Omaha.

"Fri, Oct 5 — (Antelope Springs Camp). Started to (Fort) Reno. Jim Monroe with me. Nooned at Brown Springs. Met mail wagon. Gave (E.) Tillotson check 20 days sight for John Smith on 1st National Omaha and wrote asking them to accept if presented before expiration of time.

"Sat, Oct 6 — (Fort Reno). Staid at Antelope Springs last night. Arrived at (Fort) Reno 1 P.M. Men dissatisfied because they have received no money. 54 tons hay to put in on contract. Stopping at store. Horses in Q.M. corral.

"Sun, Oct 7 — (Fort Reno). Got vouchers for 274 tons hay. At Post all day.

"Tues, Oct 9 — (Fort Reno). At Post all day. Arbuckle and Wild unloaded. Smith teams unloaded.

"Wed, Oct 10 — (Fort Reno). At Post all day. Borrowed provisions of Commissary for Arbuckle. Cottier, etc. Cottier's outfit come to Post with hay.

"Thurs, Oct 11 — (Antelope Springs). Cottier and outfit unloading. Contract completed and voucher given for whole amt. including 10 pr. ct. Gave checks to various parties for nearly \$4.000. Started to (Fort) Fetterman.

"Fri, Oct 12 — (Fort Fetterman) Staid at Antelope Springs last night. Nooned at Brown Springs. Passed Smith cattle at Sage Creek. Arrived at (Fort) Fetterman 4 P.M.

"Sat, Oct 13 — (Fort Fetterman). Went to Box Elder. Took (Jim) Monroe to Ranch. and took George Drake back to go to (Fort) Reno. Give Drake instructions about the hay there. Engaged Baptiste to take freight to (Fort) Reno. Rained all last night and all day.

"Sun, Oct 14 — (Camp on dry creek). (George) Drake started to (Fort) Reno on mail wagon. Started to Chug in wagon, Finly with me. Roads very muddy. Met 3 wagons with my freight.

Nooned on LaBonte. Met train with hay. Horse broke down and had to camp on dry creek. Little rain and snow.

"Mon, Oct 15 — (F. M. Phillips' Ranch). Breakfasted at Johnson & Walkers. Got to Phillips before night. Phillips' men just returned from Cheyenne.

"Tues, Oct 16 — (Bordeaux). Got to Ranch 11 A.M. Press and wire (from Chicago) at Ranch. Moved press to stack. Mr. (W. G.) Bullock at Ranch. Tom (Hunton) out hunting, killed mountain sheep.

"Wed, Oct 17 — (Bordeaux). Got press to running all right. Andy Tabor hauling hay for Stage Company.

"Thurs, Oct 18 — (Bordeaux). Van Ankers (or Anken) comcd work. Repaired tools etc during A. M. P. M. baling Press all right. Calf roundup on Richard Creek. 7 P.M. comcd raining. 9 P.M. snowing and continued all night.

"Fri, Oct 19 — (Cheyenne). 4 A.M. left on Coach for Cheyenne & Omaha. Breakfasted at Phillips (probably Portuguese Phillips who had a road ranch on the Chug) dined at Pole Creek. Arrived Cheyenne 4 P. M. Roads very muddy.

"Sat, Oct 20 — (Enroute to Omaha). Staid in Cheyenne last night. Ordered things from (E.) Nagle to Ranch. 3½ P.M. started to Omaha.

"Sun, Oct 21 — (Omaha). Arrived

in Omaha 4 P.M. Stoped at Grand Central, Room 54. There has been great deal of rain. Streets very muddy.

"Mon, Oct 22 — (Omaha). Saw Chief Q.M. about hay could not sell. Hypothecated vouchers with 1st. National Bank. Made some purchases."

And this is how Mr. Hunton "hypothecated" additional hay vouchers with the 1st. National Bank of Omaha, according to the following memoranda in the back of his diary for 1877:

"Oct 22 — Note for \$10,142.32, Voucher for \$11,269.20. Bal due on same \$1,126.88.

"Oct 23 — Note for \$516. Voucher for \$1018.44. Bal due on same \$502.44."

— — — — —
"Tues, Oct 23 — (Enroute to Cheyenne). Bought gravestone for Jim's (James Hunton's) grave. Started home. (For the killing of James Hunton by Indians see May 5 to 9, 1876 entries).

"Wed, Oct 24 — (Cheyenne). Arrived in Cheyenne. Gave Mrs. Bullock 50\$. Paid many debts. Net proceeds of hides \$198.40. Settled with P. G. Wilson (see May 14-16 entries) and give him my note for 300\$ 12 months.

"Thurs, Oct 25 — (Bordeaux). In Cheyenne last night. Arranged to send out freight. Went to Ranch on Coach.

Train arrived, brought timber. Contracted to build bridge X Chug for \$35.

"Fri, Oct 26 — (Bordeaux). Train fixing racks to load baled hay. Mr. Smith come to Ranch.

"Sat, Oct 27 — (Bordeaux). Baling and loading. Mr. Smith hewed bridge timber.

"Tues, Oct 30 — (Bordeaux). Loading hay, baling. Branded oxen L D. Cloudy, snowing.

"Wed, Oct 31 — (Bordeaux). Baling & loading. Branding L. D. Mr. Smith started to (Fort) Fetterman."

In his account for October, 1877 Mr. Hunton shows no receipts, apparently not considering the considerable sums borrowed on hay vouchers as money received. Neither does he enter the thousands of dollars paid to various parties for services in connection with his hay contracts. Most of the expenditures listed appear to have been for his Bordeaux road ranch and personal expenses. Here are a few: Collar & cravat \$1.75; cigars & oysters \$3.25; actual expenses to Omaha \$38.00; tomb stone (for Jim's grave) \$100.00; knives & forks \$13.50; muff & cap \$23.00; hotel & bus bill \$7.10; cigars and theatre \$1.50; S & W tableware \$15.00; gloves \$2.00; Bill Wain \$100.00 and teamsters \$65.00.

NOVEMBER, 1877

*"Thurs, Nov 1 — (Bordeaux).
About finished loading. Babcock and
"Pard" robbed Coach and were caught at
Govt. farm. Snowed last night."*

In her "Cheyenne and Black Hills Stage Routes" Agnes Wright Spring has it that the above holdup some three miles south of Fort Laramie was committed on November 3 by John F. Babcock and one Fonce Rines or Ryan, alias George F. Duncan, also known as "The Kid", and that the pair went north on the Black Hills road to stage half a dozen or more additional robberies the following day before they were captured by Lt. George F. Chase and a detachment of soldiers near the Government Farm between Fort Laramie and Rawhide Buttes.

But regardless of this slight disparity in dates Mrs. Spring tells an interesting tale of how Babcock was sort of nudged onto the road of crime by an unusual happenstance without any premeditated intent on his part. He had been associated with and probably employed by Hunton earlier that fall (see September 8 and 9 entries) and then decided to head for the "Hills". There he was, trudging along on foot one day between the Breckenridge ranch and McGinnis' place, apparently minding his own business, when up rides this Kid Rines or Ryan or Duncan, leading an extra horse. After exchanging whatever greetings

such travelers exchanged in those days The Kid suddenly draws, gets the drop on Babcock, robs him of \$20.25, takes his revolver away from him, removes the cartridges, gives it back to poor John and says — let's go rob a coach — or words to that effect. So they did. At least that's the story both told after they were captured.

But it didn't save Babcock from getting ten years in the penitentiary while The Kid was put out of circulation for twenty or more. Lucky Lt. Chase got a reward of \$400 from the county commissioners and was officially commended by the territorial legislature. A rip snorting crime-doesn't-pay story if there ever was one.

*"Fri, Nov 2 — (Fort Laramie).
Train loaded and started. Went to Post.*

*"Sat, Nov 3 — (Phillips Ranch).
Staid at Post last night. Went to Phillips.*

*"Sun, Nov 4 — (Phillips). At
Phillips all day. Bought five ponies of
Winterling. Snowed all night and all
day.*

*"Mon, Nov 5 — (Baptiste's Place).
Started home with horses. Met bull out-
fit at X-ing of Chug and turned back to
Phillips and went to Fort and hired night
herder.*

*"Tues, Nov 6 — (Bordeaux). Staid
at Baptiste's last night. Had Frank Daily
with me. Bought Bat's mules for 375\$
and took them with me. Nooned at Phil-*

lips and sent Daily on to train. I went home with horses and mules. Winterling with me. Found Dan Titus at Ranch, also Lt. Chase with "Road Agents". Bill Waln lost cattle and did not roll.

"Wed. Nov 7 — (Bordeaux). At Ranch. Hay"

From November 7 to 18 Mr. Hunton made identical entries. "At Ranch. Hay". From the similar way in which each such entry was written across the pages it is likely they were all done at one sitting. It must have indeed been something quite unusual to so distract him from his diary habit.

"Sun, Nov 18 — (Bordeaux). Tom started to Cheyenne. At Ranch. Hay.

"Mon, Nov 19 — (Bordeaux). Hornbeck's teams arrived. At Ranch. Hay.

"Tues. Nov 20 — (Bordeaux). Loaded Batiste's (Baptiste's) wagons and Hornbeck's teams with hay. At Ranch. Hay.

"Wed, Nov 21 — (Bordeaux). Baptiste & Hornbeck's teams started to (Fort) Fetterman. Hornbeck come to Ranch. Tom returned from Cheyenne. Finished baling hay at Ranch. Shoeing horses and repairing.

"Thurs, Nov 22 — (Bordeaux). Repairing press, wagons, etc. Received voucher for 118 tons hay at (Fort) Fet-

terman. Sent it to 1st National Omaha for collection. Sent order to Tillotson to collect October beef voucher. Telghd Jim to buy hides. Waiting for grain before starting to Wulfjens to bale.

"Fri, Nov 23 — (Bordeaux). At Ranch. Shod horses and done some jobbing on press. Grain not arrived.

"Sat, Nov 24 — (Bordeaux) Repairing chains and other work. Doing little. Searight's outfit corralled cattle here last night. Bill Waln come to Ranch. Train camped on Laramie tonight. No grain yet.

"Sun, Nov 25 — (Bordeaux). Bill Waln and Tom Hunton hunting steers that were lost last trip. Irwin and Walker passed to Cheyenne. Still waiting for grain. Telegram from L. P. Justy (Fort) Reno hay parties on way down."

And that is the last entry in John Hunton's diary for the year 1877. His "Cash Account" pages for both November and December are also blank. Of course we do not know the reason for this break of more than a month — one of the longest in his faithful record of half a century—but it appears to judge by erratic variations in his hand writing, that Mr. Hunton had been in a "state of mind" about something ever since his return from Omaha the last week in October. On January 1, 1878 he resumes his careful and methodical entries as though there had been no interrup-

tion and with no reference to his activities during the last week in November and during all of December, 1877.

One lone cancelled check, carefully preserved throughout the years for some reason between those blank December pages of the 1877 diary, reads as follows:

No. 84, Bordeaux, W. T. (Omaha, Neb., lined out), December 26th, 1877.

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK
OF OMAHA

(Internal Revenue 2 Cents)

"Pay to WM. J. CAVE Or Order
Five Hundred Dollars
\$500--. JOHN HUNTON"

On its back are these endorsements:

"Pay to order of Planter's Natl. Bk.
Richmond Va.

W. J. CAVE"

(Second — rubber stamp — endorsement)

"Pay to H. W. YATES Cash'r or
Order for Acct. of

PLANTERS NATL BANK
Richmond, Va.

(Illegible signature), Cashier."

— — — —

Among numerous memoranda in the back of the 1877 diary is this one, under the heading —

BILLS PAYABLE

"Jan 1, '78—First National	
Bank for 1st note	\$ 4,785.00
4, " — For	
2nd note	4,050.00
22 " — For	
3rd note	10,142.32
23, " — For	
4th note	516.00"

Mr. Hunton also leaves us this memorandum record of his hay business at Fort Reno —

RENO

"Aug — Received Q. Master	
voucher for 76 tons	
Hay	\$2,804.40
10 pr cent off	280.44
	<hr/>
	\$ 2,523.96
"Sept — Voucher for	
200 tons hay	7,380.00
10 pr cent off	738.00
	<hr/>
	6,642.00
"Oct — Voucher for	
57 tons hay	2,103.30
Retained 10 pr cent	1,018.44
	<hr/>
	\$12,287.70

Hay Stacked at Reno

"Cottier 48 tons	1612
Arbuckle 34 tons	1490"

It will be recalled that Hunton was awarded contracts to supply both Forts Reno and Fetterman with hay, and Fort Fetterman with beef (June 13, 16, 27 entries). What he bid on the original hay contract at Fort Reno is not clear, but on July 2nd he "proposed" to the chief Q.M. to put in "additional" hay at Fort Reno for \$65 per ton. Then on July 13 he subcontracted 333 tons of hay for Fort Reno to David Cottier, Posey Ryan and others at \$30 per ton, Hunton to furnish the machinery, extras, oils, etc.

The above memorandum shows that Hunton was paid for exactly 333 tons of hay delivered at Fort Reno, but instead of \$65 he apparently received slightly less than \$37 a ton for it. It also looks like he owed Cottier and Arbuckle for 82 tons of additional hay that he may not have sold (see October 22 entry). Pretty involved, but it is doubtful if he realized much profit from that Reno contract.

He leaves no such exact record of his business with the government at Fort Fetterman, but its volume must have equalled or exceeded that at Reno and may have been somewhat less expensive, possibly more profitable.

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April 30.

DREW, LT. — 1877, Jan. 18.

DUNCAN, GEORGE F. (THE KID) — 1877, Nov. 1.

- DUNCAN, JIM — 1876, June 17.
DURBIN, 1877, Sept. 29.
DUTCH WILLIAM — 1876, Feb. 10, 12, Sept. 8.
"E" — 1877, Feb. 13, 17, 28.
ECOFFEY, FRANK — 1876, Nov. 30. 1877, Jan. 15.
ECOFFEY, JULES — 1876, Mar. 31, June 17, Nov. 30.
1877, Jan. 15.
EDWARDS, DR. J. L. — 1877, June 29.
EGAN, CAPT. — 1876, Feb. 19.
EMERSON & BAKER — 1876, April 30, June 6.
ERBIN, EULA — 1877, (Following) May 18.
EVANS, COL. — 1876, May 24, 25.
EVANS, GOV. JOHN — 1876, Jan. 1.
FAGAN — Introduction. 1876, May 11. 1877, Feb. 14.
FARLY, MATT — 1876, Aug. 13.
FARNAM — 1876, May 27.
"FATTY" — 1876, June 16, 19, Aug. 23.
FETTERMAN, CAPT. WILLIAM J. — Introduction.
FINERTY, JOHN F. — 1876, May 27, July 15.
FINLY — 1877, Oct. 14.
FINN, DANIEL — 1877, Mar. 20.
FISHER—1876, Feb. 25. 1877, Jan. 4, 8.
FLSHER, J. J. (Deputy Marshal) — 1877, Jan. 4, 3.
FLAGOTHIER — 1877, May 7.
FLEET, BILL — 1877, May 16.
FOGLESONG, WOOD — 1876, Dec. 29. 1877, Apr. 5.
FOGLESON, G. D. — 1876, May 8, Aug. 13.
FORSYTHE, JEROME — 1876, Jan. 6, 28.
FOSTER, DEPUTY SHERIFF — 1877, Apr. 8.
FOSTER, LT. — 1877, Apr. 25.
FOX, BILL — 1876, May 30, 31, June 1, 2, 3, 6,
July 5, 10, 11.
FRANCAIS, ALEX — 1877, June 29.
FRENCH, ACTING GOVERNOR — 1876, May 27.
FRYER, ROBERT — Introduction.
GARNETT, WILLIAM — 1876, Nov. 11. 1877, Jan. 1.
GARNIER, BAPTISTE (LITTLE BAT) — 1876,
Jan. 13, 14, 16, 23, Feb. 22, Mar. 23, 31, April 18,
May 12, June 6, 17, Nov. 28, Dec. 28, 29.
1877, Jan. 3, Feb. 25, Mar. 5 to 25, May 18, 20, 22.

- June 4, 15, 24, 30, July 4, 5, 15, 28, Aug. 4, 6, 19,
22, 26, 31, Oct. 13, Nov. 6, 20, 21.
- GIBSON, DR. — 1876, June 12, 1877, Jan. 6, 7.
- GILLIS, CAPT. JAMES — 1876, (Following) Jan. 8,
Feb. 2, 18, 29, Mar. 12, 30, May 30, 31, July 26, 31,
1877, May 13, June 30.
- GILMER, JACK—1876, Mar. 11, Apr. 25.
1877, Mar. 1, 16.
- GLAFCKE, MAJ. — 1876, Aug. 24.
- GOCHE, CHIEF — 1876, Nov. 24.
- GOOD, MRS. — 1877, Sept. 30.
- GOODALL, CAPT. — 1877, Jan. 18.
- GOODELL — 1876, June 24.
- GORDEN, FRANK — 1877, (Following) June 7.
- GORDON, MAJ. — 1876, Dec. 10.
- GORE, FRANK — 1877, May 18.
- GRAHAM, CLINT — 1876, Jan. 1, 1877, April 6,
May 6, June 8.
- GRANT, GEN. — 1876, Feb. 26.
- GRAVES (Courier) — 1876, July 22, Aug. 2.
- GRIFFIN — 1876, June 8, 15, 21, 28, 29, July 1, 8, 12,
15, Oct. 25, 1877, Jan. 8, Mar. 29.
- GROVES, SAM D. — 1876, Feb. 28, 29, Mar. 3, 5, 6,
7, 31, April 16, May 12, 16, 19, June 17, 21,
July 1, 10, 20, 22, 23, Aug. 2, 3, 10 to 28,
Sept. 16, 20, 24, Nov. 21, Dec. 1, 10, 28.
1877, Jan. 3, 5, 6, 25, 29, 31, Feb. 1, 2, 3, 6,
21, 22, 24, Mar. 3, 4, 7, 12, 19, 30, April 1, 2,
10, 20, May 14, 16, 20, 26, June 7, 8, 22, 24,
July 6, 8, 12, Aug. 12, Sept. 3, 5, 8, Oct. 2.
- GRUARD, FRANK — 1876, Mar. 28, May 27, June 17,
July 15, 1877, Jan. 3.
- HAAS, H. — 1876, June 28, July 12, 31, Oct. 7, 30.
1877, Jan. 1, 6, May 11, 14, July 7.
- HALL — 1876, May 26.
- HALL, MRS. S. F. — 1877, Jan. 2, 31.
- HANLEY (HAULEY) CORPL. — 1876, June 5.
- HANSON (HINSON), WM. — 1877, Oct. 1.
- HARKNESS — 1876, Jan. 1.
- HARRINGTON, MISS — 1876, Oct. 14, 15.

- HARRIS — 1876, June 8.
HARRIS (Boatman) — 1876, June 5.
HARRIS, GEORGE — 1876, June 6, Dec. 31.
HARRIS, JIM — 1876, July 12.
HARTSUFF, DR. — 1877, June 15, July 16, 31.
HARWOOD, JIM — 1876, Jan. 24, July 2, 3, 16.
HASTINGS (Indian Agent) — 1876, (Following)
Jan. 8.
HATHAWAY, W. E. — 1876, Mar. 17, Apr. 22, May 30,
July 8, 31, Dec. 15. 1877, Feb. 27, Mar. 27, 29, 30,
Apr. 28, May 2.
HAUPHOFF, JOSEPH J. — 1876, Jan. 25.
1877, Jan. 26, Feb. 15, May 21.
HAWKES — 1876, Dec. 31.
HAWLEY (Stage Driver) — 1877, June 29.
HAYNES, TOM — 1876, April 7, Sept. 8, Dec. 24, 31.
HAYS — (Deputy Sheriff) — 1877, July 22.
HEATH, GEORGE — 1876, Jan. 16.
HECHT, C. — 1876, July 31. 1877, Feb. 18.
HEFFRIDGE, BILL — 1877, April 3; Sept. 19.
HELLMAN, B. — 1876, Oct. 7, 30. 1877, April 30.
HENRY, TOM — 1876, Jan. 15.
HICOCK (HICKOK), J. B. (WILD BILL) — 1876,
June 30, Aug. 12.
HILDEBRAND, LYLE — Introduction.
HOLT, G. L. — 1876, Dec. 27. 1877, Jan. 1, 10, May 31.
HOMAN, GEORGE W. JR. — 1876, Jan. 22.
HONG, AL — 1877, May 11.
HORNBECK — 1877, Nov. 19, 20, 21.
HORR, CHARLES W. — 1877, (Following) May 18
HOSEPANCH — 1877, Jan. 25.
HUFF, CHRIS — 1876, (Following) Aug. 23.
HUGAS — 1876, May 31, June 1, 2.
HUNTER (Freighter) — 1877, Feb. 4, Mar. 13, May 20.
HUNTER & ABBOTT — 1876, Feb. 19, Aug. 16, 24.
1877, July 18.
HUNTER, COLIN — 1876, Feb. 15, 17, April 7, 8, 28,
May 3, 5, 6, 25, 30, 31, June 1, 2, 6, 9, 10, 11, 15, 17,
Aug. 16, Dec. 10, 12. 1877, Jan. 9, 17, 24, April 5,
May 28, June 12, July 8, 14, Sept. 29.

- HUNTER, FRANK — 1876, May 8.
HUNTON, DR. — 1876, Jan. 24.
HUNTON, JAMES — 1876, Jan. 19, Feb. 4, 6, 9, 25, 29,
April 3, 16, 21, 30, May 5, 6, 7, 9, 31.
1877, Feb. 12, Oct. 23, 31.
HUNTON, TOM — 1876, Feb. 11, May 31, June 17,
Aug. 13, Dec. 10, 28, 31. 1877, Jan. 7, 12, 17, 31,
Feb. 2, 5, Mar. 6, 7, 12, 21, 27, April 6,
May 8, 10, 11, 12, 14, 20. Oct. 16, Nov. 25.
IRISH PETE — 1876, Aug. 3.
IRWIN — 1877, April 23, June 29, Nov. 25.
JACKSONS — 1877, Mar. 30.
JANIS, ANTOINE — 1877, June 7.
JANIS, NICK — 1877, Jan. 26 to 29, Feb. 6 to 28,
Mar. 13, June 7, 17, 18.
JANIS, PETE — 1877, (Following) June 7.
JANIS, WILLIAM — 1877, (Following) June 7.
JEWETT, BAPTISTE — 1877, (Following) June 7.
"JOHNNY BULL" — 1877, Feb. 18.
JOHNSON — 1876, Aug. 22.
JOHNSON, HORSE SHOE — 1876, Aug. 15, 23.
JOHNSON, SKEW — 1876, Mar. 25, April 8, Sept. 4.
JOHNSON & WALKER — 1876, Jan. 17, Mar. 8, 9, 10,
April 5, 22, May 23, June 16, July 3, 31, Aug. 3, 11,
Sept. 19, Nov. 18, Dec. 5, 24. 1877, Mar. 9, 27,
April 24, May 8, July 1, 29, Sept. 9, 30, Oct. 15.
JONES, BUCK — 1877, Jan. 21.
JONES, RANGER — 1876, Feb. 24. 1877, Jan. 15.
JUSTY, L. P. — 1876, Jan. 12, Mar. 31, Aug. 16,
Dec. 18. 1877, May 31, Aug. 31, Nov. 25.
KEELEY, PAT — 1877, June 29.
KELLY, HIRAM B. (HI) — 1876, Feb. 2, 29, Mar. 1,
April 3, 5, 6, 8, 17, 18, 20, 21, May 8, 12, 14, 15, 17,
June 24, 28, Aug. 16, 17, 29, 30, Sept. 8, 9, 10, 15, 24,
Nov. 20 to 30, Dec. 10, 31. 1877, Jan. 8, 15, 17, 26,
Feb. 3, 24 to 28, Mar. 9, 22, 27, 28, 30, April 19, 20,
May 10, 16, 20, 27, 28, June 3, 5, 13, 19, 22, 24, 25,
July 17, Sept. 23, 29.
KEMPER, GEN. — 1876, Sept. 2.
KENDRICK, JOHN B. — 1877, Jan. 2, Mar. 13.

- KENNEDY, JOE — 1876, April 30, June 6.
KENT, T. A. — 1876, May 23, July 1, 2, Aug. 23.
1877, Jan. 27, April 1, May 14, Sept. 28, 29.
KEOUS (KEOUGH) CAPT. — 1877, Jan. 5.
KIMBALL, SUPT. U.P.R.R. — 1876, Mar. 11,
KIPP, N. — 1876, May 3 to 17, June 26, July 1, 10, 11,
13, 31, Aug. 21, Oct. 6, 30, Dec. 12, 27.
1877, Jan. 24, 30, Feb. 26, 28, April 26, July 1, 2, 4,
Sept. 29.
KIRBY, PETE — 1877, Jan. 21.
KROUS — 1876, Aug. 21.
LADEAU, BAPTISTE — Introduction.
LADUE, MRS. — 1877, (Following) June 7.
LALLEE — 1876, Jan. 23, April 5, 18, 20, Aug. 21.
1877, Jan. 8, Feb. 12, 23 to 28, Mar. 2 to 22,
May 20, 22, 31, June 13, 16, 25, Aug. 22.
LA MOTTE, JOHN — 1877, Feb. 9, 28.
LANE — 1876, June 17, Nov. 24.
LANE, JIM — 1877, Mar. 21, 26.
LA RAMIE, JACQUES — 1876, July 5.
LATHROP, GEORGE — 1876, June 15, July 23, 24,
Aug. 7, 8. 1877, Aug. 17.
LAUBENFELS, CAPT. — 1876, Jan. 13.
LEACH, M. F. (U. S. Marshal) — 1877, Sept. 19.
LEE, HONG — 1877, May 11.
LEGGETT — 1877, Mar. 27.
LEVERS, GEORGE (The Blacksmith) — 1876.
Dec. 15, 22. 1877, Jan. 8, 16, 23, 31, Mar. 14, 15, 23,
April 15, May 7.
LIGGETT — 1876, April 7, 8.
LONG, BROS. — 1876, Jan. 7, Dec. 15, 31.
LONG, JOHN — 1876, Feb. 28, Mar. 31.
LORD, D. K. (DAVE) — 1876, April 29, May 28,
Oct. 3, Dec. 18.
LOTHIAN, MARGARET — Introduction.
LUDINGTON, COL. & MAJ. — 1876, May 31.
1877, May 13, June 27, Aug. 12.
LUHMAN — 1877, Jan. 26, Mar. 9.
LUHN, LT. S. — 1876, Jan. 15.
LUHN, CAPT. G. L. — 1876, April 25, Nov. 2.

- 1877, April 25.
LYON, CHARLY — 1877, Jan. 18.
MACMILLAN, T. B. — 1876, May 27.
MARKLE, "OLD" — 1877, Feb. 5.
MARSH, WILLIAM — 1876, Mar. 31, Dec. 31.
MARY — 1876, April 18.
MAŞON, JOSEPH — 1876, Feb. 5, Aug. 22, Sept. 4.
MASON, MAJ. — 1877, April 6.
MATTHEWS — 1876, Mar. 31.
MATHEWS, CHARLY — 1877, June 18.
MATHEWS, TOM — 1876, May 18, 20, 31, July 1.
1877, April 25, July 4, 26, 31, Aug. 1.
MAXWELL — 1876, May 27.
MAXWELL, TOM — 1876, Jan. 19, Nov. 30.
MAY — 1876, April 3, 8, June 12.
MAY, JIM — 1876, April 18.
McCAUL, JACK — 1876, June 30.
McCOLLEY, MAC — 1876, (Following) July 1.
McFADDEN (McPHADDEN) — 1877, April 21,
May 31.
McFARLAND — 1876, Sept. 25, Oct. 22.
McFARLANE, JOHN — 1877, Mar. 7, June 30.
McFARLANE & McULVAN — 1876, Feb. 6.
McGINNIS — 1877, Jan. 8, Nov. 1.
McKAY, PETER — 1876, Feb. 18, Mar. 11.
McKENNA, "REDDY" — 1877, April 3, June 29.
McKENZIE, GEN. — 1877, Mar. 11.
McKINSTRY — 1877, Jan. 18.
McLAUGHLIN, WM. — 1876, Mar. 19, July 31.
McLAUGHLIN, SGT. — 1876, April 26.
McMILLAN — 1876, Mar. 22, April 26, May 3, 25,
June 8, July 10, 22, 25, 31, Aug. 7, Oct. 7, 9, 26.
McMILLAN, GEORGE — 1877, July 3.
McQUADE — 1877, Mar. 30.
McULVANE, DAN — 1876, May 14, 15, Aug. 15.
1877, Mar. 7, April 14, 16, 27, June 5, 12, 24.
MEANS, A. W. — 1876, Jan. 29, April 3.
MERRITT, GEN. — 1876, June 17, July 25, 26, 27, 31.
MERRITT, JOHN — 1877, Aug. 8.
MEYERS (Road Agent) — 1876, Nov. 30.

- MILES, GEN. — 1877, Feb. 6.
MILLER, CHARLES — 1876, June 6.
MILLER, MISS — 1877, Sept. 20.
MILLER, PADDY — 1877, (Following) June 7.
MILLER, WILLIAM H. — 1877, (Following) June 7.
MILLS — 1876, Aug. 10.
MILLS, BEN B. — 1876, July 10. 1877, June 25, July 6.
MILLS, B. (Squaw) — 1876, Aug. 31.
MINER, J. W. — 1877, June 29.
MINUSE — 1876, Jan. 28, 29.
MISSOURI JIM — 1876, Jan. 11, June 26.
1877, May 15, 16, 20, June 29, 30, Aug. 1.
MITCHELL, GEORGE — 1877, Jan. 2, Aug. 8.
MONAHAN, CAPT. — 1877, June 27.
MONROE, JIM — 1876, Sept. 8. 1877, May 10, 17,
July 31, Oct. 5, 13.
MOORE — 1876, Feb. 24. 1877, Aug. 28.
MOORE, CAPT. — 1877, Feb. 3.
MOORE, JACK — Introduction.
MORRIS, JOE — 1876, April 13, June 23, Aug. 22, 30,
Sept. 17, 18, Nov. 22, 24. 1877, Jan. 27, 30,
Feb. 24, Mar. 4, 5, 12, 16, April 1, 7, May 13,
June 10, 25, 26.
MORRIS, MRS. JOE — 1876, Aug. 22.
MORTON, MAJ. — 1876, Jan. 24. 1877, Sept. 19.
MORTON, MRS. EMMA CRISS CROSS — 1876,
(Following) April 18, 30, June 6, Aug. 3.
1877, (Following) May 6, 18.
MURPHY — 1876, July 23.
MURPHY, W. H. — 1877, Sept. 30.
MURRIN, LUKE — 1876, Feb. 5.
NAGLE, E. — 1876, Jan. 20, 22, Mar. 18, May 27,
July 13, 31, Nov. 15, 30, Dec. 27, 31.
1877, Jan. 1, 25, Feb. 18, Sept. 25, Oct. 20.
NIETFELD, ALBERT — Introduction.
1877, (Following) Mar. 25.
NIETFELD, HENRY — Introduction.
1877, (Following) Mar. 25.
NIETFELD, MRS. HENRY — 1877, (Following)
June 7.

- NEGRO SAM — 1877, April 8.
NEWCOMB — 1877, April 7, 13, May 21, 26, 27,
June 8, 30, July 6, 26, Sept. 5, 9.
NOLAN, JIM — 1876, Feb. 28, Mar. 31.
NOYES, CAPT. — 1876, Feb. 19.
O'BRIEN — 1876, Oct. 14, Nov. 30.
OTTEN, JOHN — 1876, April 28, July 23, Aug. 4, 7,
Sept. 21, 23, Oct. 7, 16, 17, 18, 19.
OWENS, JOHN — Introduction. 1876, Jan. 18, 31,
Feb. 12, 18, 19, May 16, 17, June 17, 27, 28.
1877, Jan. 5, 11, 15, 21, Mar. 25, April 2, May 13, 27,
July 17, 31.
OWENS, MRS. JOHN — 1877, Mar. 25.
PAGE, SAMUEL — 1877, (Following) June 7.
PAINE, CAPT. — 1876, July 27.
PATRICK, M. H. — 1876, Mar. 11, April 25.
1877, Mar. 1.
PATTON — 1877, Mar. 4, 5, 6, 14, 22, April 15,
Sept. 26.
PEABODY, EDWARD — 1876 (introduction).
PEALES, CAPT. — 1876, Feb. 22, April 3.
PEARSON, LT. — 1876, Oct. 14, 30.
PEASE — 1876, Mar. 18.
PELTON, CLARK — 1877, June 29, July 22.
PENDERY, DR. J. B. — 1876, May 13.
PEYTON, MRS. PAULINE E. — 1877, (Following)
May 18.
PHILLIPS, F. M. (BUTCHER) — 1876, Jan. 17, 23,
Feb. 15, 28, Mar. 2, April 3, 5, 22, May 23
June 16, 22, 27, 28, Aug. 17, Sept. 16, 17,
Nov. 18, 19, 23, 24, 25, 30, Dec. 25, 31.
1877, Mar. 7, 9, 16, 26, 27, April 14 15, 22,
May 8, 26, 27, June 2, 10, 13, 14, 15, 25, Sept. 20,
24, 26, 28, Oct. 2, 15, Nov. 3, 4, 5, 6.
PHILIPS, GEORGE — 1877, Sept. 20.
PHILLIPS, JOHN (PORTUGEE) — Introduction.
1876, Mar. 25, June 26. 1877, Jan. 17, April 19,
May 27, Oct. 19.
PHILLIPS, LUCY — 1877, Sept. 20.
POLLOCK, CAPT. EDWIN C. — 1876, Oct. 1, 8.

- 1877, April 27, Aug. 14, 24.
POURIER, BAPTISTE (BIG BAT) — 1876, Feb. 12,
Mar. 28, May 27, June 17, July 15, 26, Nov. 13.
1877, Jan. 3, June 16, Sept. 25.
POWELL — 1876, April 25, July 31, Aug. 1.
POWELL, GEORGE — 1876, Jan. 15, Feb. 2, 26, 29,
Mar. 3, 22, 23, 26, 31; April 1, 27, 28, 30,
May 3, 4, 27, 28, June 2, 13, 26, July 7 to 31,
Aug. 1, 2, 3, 10, 23, Sept. 21, 23, Oct. 4 to 30, Nov. 2.
Dec. 10, 12, 18. 1877, Jan. 11, 12, 25 to 30, Feb. 14,
Mar. 21, April 14, 15, 26, 27, 28, May 5, July 4,
Aug. 14, 31, Sept. 4.
PRAGER, FRANK — 1877, May 6.
PREWITT, FRED — Introduction.
PRICE, LT., CAPT.—1876, July 27.
PROVINES (Tax Collector) — 1877, June 18.
PULLIAM — 1876, May 19.
PYE, WILLIAM — 1876, Nov. 16, 25, Dec. 2.
1877, Jan. 7, 18, 25, Feb. 6, 21, Mar. 3, 4, June 29.
QUINN, CAPT. T. F. — 1876, Jan 15, Oct. 24, 26.
RAMSEY, JOHN — 1877, Jan. 17, July 21, 22.
RANDALL, MAJ. AND CAPT. — 1877, Jan. 16,
May 21.
RED CLOUD, CHIEF — 1876, May 13, 27.
RED CLOUD'S DAUGHTER — 1877, June 7.
REED, F. B. — 1877, June 29.
REED, TOM — 1876, Mar. 23.
REEL, HECK — 1876, April 2, June 15, Aug. 2, 5, 7, 12
Dec. 25. 1877, Jan. 2, Mar. 20, Sept. 30.
REYNOLDS GEN. — 1876, Feb. 24.
REYNOLD, LT.—1876, Feb. 24.
RHODES — 1876, Oct. 10.
RICE, CLARK — Introduction.
RICHARD (RESHAW) — 1876, June 17.
RICHARD (RESHAW), JAMES — 1877, (Following)
June 7.
RICHARD (RESHAW), JOHN — 1877, (Following)
June 7.
RICHARD (RESHAW), JOSEPH — 1877, (Follow-
ing) June 7.

- RICHARD (RESHAW), LOUIS — 1876, Feb. 18,
Mar. 28, May 27, July 6, 15, Nov. 13.
1877, Jan. 3, Mar. 12.
- RICHARD (RESHAW), PETE — 1877, Mar. 6.
- RICHARD, RUSSELL — 1876, May 26.
- ROBINSON, LT. — 1876, Jan. 13, April 3, Oct. 19, 25.
- ROCKWELL — 1877, Jan. 5.
- ROE (ROW), WM. — 1876, Jan. 4.
- ROGERS, SURVEYOR — 1877, July 8.
- RONSEY — 1876, April 14.
- ROYAL, COL. WM. B. — 1876, May 22.
- RUSSELL, D. H. — 1876, May 31. 1877, Jan. 11,
Mar. 4, April 15, 19, June 8, Sept. 28.
- RUSSELL, JACK (BUCKSKIN) — 1876, Mar. 23,
Dec. 29.
- RYAN (RINES), FONCE (THE KID) — 1877,
Nov. 1.
- RYAN, POSEY — 1877, July 13, Dec. 31.
- SALISBURY, MONROE — 1876, Feb. 16, Mar. 11,
April 25. 1877, Mar. 1, 16.
- SANDERS, JACK — 1877, May 18.
- SANDERS (SAUNDERS), JIM — 1876, Jan. 22,
May 19.
- SANDOZ, MARI — 1877, (Following) June 7.
- SCHWARTZ, FRED — Introduction. 1877, May 18.
- SCHWARTZ, MRS. FRED — Introduction.
- SCHWARTZ, MINNA — Introduction.
- SEARIGHT — 1877, Mar. 29, April 1, Nov. 24.
- SECHLER, JOHN—1877, July 4.
- SELIG, MADAME—Introduction.
- SEMINOLE, ED—1876, June 3. July 7, 15.
- SEMINOLE, JULES—1876, June 6.
- SEMINOLE, MICH—1876, Aug. 29. Sept. 4.
- SEMINOLE, NOEL—1876, July 31, Oct. 20.
- SETON, LT.—1876, July 23.
- SHADLY & POWERS—1876, Apr. 18, 19.
- SHAY, JOHN—1876, May 14, 16.
- SHERIDAN, COL.—1876, Mar. 19.
- SHERIDAN, GEN.—1876, Feb. 26, Sept. 16.
- SHERMAN, GEN.—1876, Feb. 26.
- SHERMAN, SYLVESTER (VES)—1876, Aug. 3.

- SIMPSON, GOV. MILWARD—1877, (Following)
May 6.
- SIMS, ALBERT—Introduction.
- SIOUX JIM—1876, Sept. 5.
- SITTING BULL—1876, Jan. 29, Mar. 11, May 13.
1877, Jan. 3.
- SLAUGHTER, J. N.—1877, Apr. 3.
- SLAUGHTER, JOHN—1877, Apr. 3.
- SLAYMAKER, SAM—1877, May 18, Aug. 1, 31.
- SMALL—1877, Jan. 22.
- SMEAD, LT.—1876, Dec. 26.
- SMILY—1876, May 23.
- SMITH—1876, Mar. 17, Apr. 16, 17, June 8, Aug. 7.
1877, Sept. 28, 29, Oct. 26, 27, 31.
- SMITH, MRS. ALFRED—Introduction 1877 (Following)
May 2.
- SMITH, E. J.—1876, Jan. 3, 15, Feb. 2, 29, June 9,
Sept. 14, 20, Oct. 3, Nov. 16, 28. 1877, Jan. 19,
May 31.
- SMITH, EDWIN C.—1877 (Following) May 18.
- SMITH, JOHN R.—Introduction. 1876, Oct. 29. 1877,
May 2, 6, July 1, Aug. 24, Oct. 5, 9, 12.
- SMITH, MRS. JOHN R.—1877, May 2.
- SMITH, MIKE—1876, Feb. 25.
- SMITH & LORD—1877, July 8.
- SNYDER, DUDLEY—1877, Mar. 13, Aug. 14, 23.
- SOULE, W. L. G.—1877, June 29.
- SPAULDING, SAM—1877, Aug. 31.
- SPOTTED TAIL, CHIEF—1876, May 13, 27.
- SPRING, AGNES WRIGHT—Introduction. 1877,
(Following) Jan. 25, Feb. 24, Mar. 1, 20, Apr. 27,
June 29, Nov. 1.
- STAGNER, JEFFERSON—1876, June 6.
- STAGNER, SPEED—1876, Mar. 28, Apr. 30, June 6,
12, July 8, 11, 12, 20, Aug. 6, Sept. 25, Oct. 25, 26,
27. 1877, Jan. 3, May 3.
- STANTON, CAPT.—1876, Mar. 18.
- STANTON (STAUNTON), COL. (Paymaster)—1876.
Jan. 15, May 17.
- STAUNTON, MAJ.—1876, Apr. 14, 16.
- ST. DENNIS, FRED—1876, Apr. 18.

- STEEL, HON. W. R.—1876, Jan. 4.
STEPHENS & WILCOX—1876, Mar. 20.
STILES, MAJ.—1877, July 24.
STRAHORN, ROBERT E.—1876, May 27.
STREET, TOM—1876, Apr. 18, 19.
STUART—1876, Jan. 1, Mar. 8, Apr. 3, 5, 22, May 23,
June 14, 16, July 2, Aug. 30, Sept. 2, 9, 18, Oct. 3.
1877, Sept. 3.
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"OFFICERS' ROW", Fort Laramie National Monument—Introduction.

OCCIDENTAL HOTEL, Buffalo, Wyoming, about 1881—Introduction.

WILLIAM M. (LONG) DAILY—1876. Following January 1 entry.

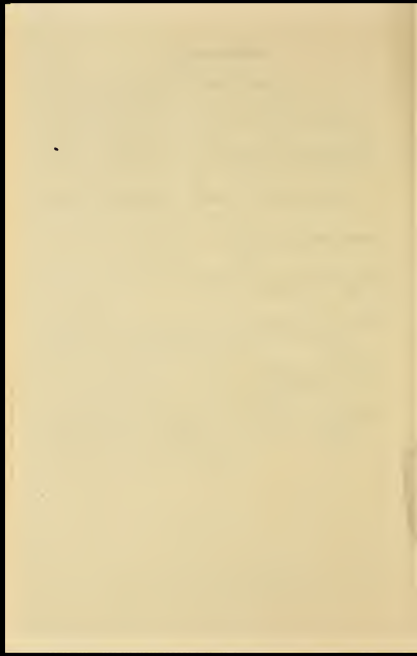
JAMES HUNTON, killed by Indians May 4, 1876. Following May 9 entry.

LOG CABIN Built in 1871 by W. G. Bullock. Following July 1, 1876 entry.

GEORGE THROSTLE, killed by Indians attacking Heck Reel's Bull Train. Following August 2, 1876 entry.

ALVAH W. AYRES. A Natural Bridge Bears His Name. Following February 11, 1877 entry.

JOHNNY OWENS, Gambler-Sheriff with Twenty Notches on His Gun. Following March 25, 1877 entry.





Map Courtesy of
L. C. Bishop, C.E., Cheyenne, Wyo.

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1878 - '79

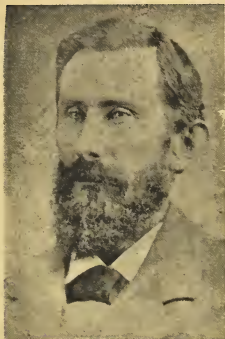
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L. G. (Pat) Flannery

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JOHN HUNTON

(1839-1928)

Virginia Gentleman
Wyoming Pioneer

THIS WORK is presented in the hope that it will help preserve a true picture of day by day living on the frontier and other accurate details of Wyoming's early history and development.

PART ONE - - 1878

JANUARY, 1878: ,

Rutherford B. Hays was 19th President of the United States.

John R. Smith Comes Collecting for Hay.

A Sixty Mile Horseback Ride Through Deep Snow.

Loafing in Cheyenne, "The Magic City", was "Bad Business".

Getting Repairs for Machinery No Simple Matter.

How Sheriff Carr Delivered the Poll Books.

Names of a Hay Baling Crew at F. M. Phillip's Ranch.

Railroad Subsidy Bonds Carry—The Squaws Voted Too.

Wyoming was First State to Extend Franchise to Women—One Reason.

Family Reunion at Little Bat Garnier's.

A Bond That Was Hard to Break.

Pioneer Woman Recalls Poignant Episode with Lallee.

Edwin C. Smith—Summary of his Career.

Early Brands of Tom Sun, O. P. Johnson, Sam Foley and Jim Cantling.

Bull Team Freight Rates Changed With the Seasons.

How They Measured Hay Stacks in 1878.

FEBRUARY, 1878:

- Tom Mathews Tattles on L. P. Justy—Reports Bad Condition at Ft. Fetterman.
Petition for Bridge Across the Chug Sent to County Commissioners.
Lallee's Horse, Stolen by Indians in 1876, Sighted on Horse Shoe Creek.
Blacksmith George Levers Burns Up Posts and Poles—Gets Fired.
Brands Recorded in Laramie City.
February Hunt Stopped by Snow and Storm.
Black Coal Killed in Arapahoe Tribal Row.
Leg Broken in Runaway—Lies Helpless in Blizzard Until Midnight.
Long Siege in Fort Fetterman Hospital Follows Accident.
George Powell Gets Wood Contract at \$7 per Cord.

MARCH, 1878:

- Broken Leg Slow to Heal and Painful.
Terrific Five-Day Blizzard Strikes March 8.
Mail Sent from Ft. Fetterman by Pack Horses—None Received for Ten Days.
Recurring Nightmare Prevents Sleep—Dreams His Heart Stops.
Many Dead Cattle Reported in Storm's Wake.
Lt. King Recaptures Parker's Stolen Mules.

Twenty-Five Years Later Soldier-Novelist
Charles King Writes Nostalgic Letter.
George Powell and Maggie Scogille Marry.
Fort Fetterman Stable Collapses.
Thirty-Five Days in Hospital—Bill \$41,
Board \$50, Nurse \$13.

APRIL, 1878

Tom Reed was Member of Persimmon Bill
Chamber's Outlaw Band.
Shorty Ezelle Represents Hunton on Spring
Roundup.
Big Bat Pourier Pays Visit to Bordeaux.
Freight Rates 85 Cents per Hundred from
Cheyenne to Bordeaux, via Bull Train.
William Hanson, Discharged for Drunken-
ness, Steals Pistol and Leaves.
Wulfjen Family and Colin Hunter Dinner
Guests at Bordeaux.
"Numpa" Comes—Takes Squaws to
Laramie River.
Bill Waln Hauls 14,000 Pounds Freight to
Fetterman with Ox Team.
Tom Hunton Buys a \$20 Watch.
Lallee Married Frank Guard, Crook's Half
Hawaiian Scout, in Later Years.

MAY, 1878:

Railroad Survey Party Working Near
Bordeaux.

Roundup Brings 2500 Cattle from Goshens Hole.

Crawford Poisons Self by Accident at Johnny Owen's Ranch.

Robert Fryer, Poet-Blacksmith, Has a Sick Spell.

Beef Bids for Fort McKinney—\$7.48 per Hundred on Block, \$7.10 on Hoof.

Builds Raft-Ferry Across Box Elder Creek—But It Does Not Work.

Charly Wiley Shot and Killed by Charly Moore.

Pay Day at Fort Fetterman—Recruits and "Rounduppers" Arrive.

Roundup Working Both Sides of the Platte.

Inspecting New Road from Rock Creek to Fetterman.

Bill Bullock (Halfbreed) Befriended in Cheyenne—He Toured Europe With Buffalo Bill Cody.

Heavy Troop Movements North—Officers Dine at Bordeaux.

Lallee Ill. Objects to Medicine. Doped with Castor Oil, Tincture of Opium and Quinine Regardless—Recovers.

To Omaha for Bidding on Government Contracts.

Decoration Day Card Game with Officers and Friends.

Tim Dyer's "Button" of Black Hill's Gold Valued at \$7,400.

JUNE, 1878:

Seeing Sights in Omaha with Yates and Noble.

Buys Three Mowing Machines of Herman Haas.

March Blizzard of 1878 was Worst Ever.
How Freighter Smalley Saved His Mules.
Francis E. Warren Traveled on Foot
When Horses and Sleds Failed.

Drift South of Cheyenne was Mile Wide,
18 Feet Deep.

Hunton's Hay Crews Organized at Bordeaux,
Forts Fetterman, Reno and McKinney.

E. Tillotson Buys Joe Taylor's Herd.

Ft. McKinney Moved to Clear Creek—Hay
Contract Relet.

Governor Thayer Carries First Mail Over
New Rock Creek-Fetterman Road.

Buys New \$16 Pistol and \$7.50 Worth of
Ammunition.

Tax Valuations on Livestock and Equip-
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JULY, 1878:

Crazy Woman Creek—It's Place in
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Hay Prospects Look Poor—Bids Too High
on McKinney Contract.

Little Bat Finds Lots of Hay Near Lake
DeSmet—Too Late to Save Contract.

- Thomas J. Foster was Johnson County's
First Permanent Settler.
Loses McKinney Contract—Sells Haying
Outfit and Supplies to Snyder.
Who Killed Ed Hewitt?
Gen. Merritt and Family Camp at Brown
Springs.
Ft. Fetterman Declared Off Limits to Scott
Murray.
Finds Wolcott Cutting Fetterman Reserva-
tion Hay.
Carey's Herd Arrives on Box Elder.
Joseph M. Carey's Remarkable Political
Career.
Thomas Edison In Wyoming to Study Sun's
Eclipse—Gets Idea Which Lights Up the
World.

AUGUST, 1878:

- Billy Bacon Breaks Leg at Bordeaux—Jim
Monroe Takes Him to Ft. Laramie.
Luke Murrin's Expedition to Black Hills
Blocked by President Grant.
Traveling Dentist Barns Visits Bordeaux—
Borrows Silvertailed Mare for Ride to
to Cheyenne.
Jim Berry Robbed Stage Coaches and Trains
—Maybe as a Side Line.
Tar-She-Nah-Ze and Lallee Go to Laramie
River. Lallee Returns Ill, Dr. Joseph
Called.

Branson Passes With Texas Cattle. He and Clay Buy Bulls, Three for \$100.

Jim Shaw Drove Cattle Up the Texas Trail in 1878.

Newsman Bronson Came West with Nervous Breakdown Following Henry Ward Beecher Trial.

Billy Irvine and Tom Branson Fought the "Battle of the Cook Stove".

"The Hand" Again Visits Bordeaux.

Suffering with "Nervous Head", Brain Dull and Stupid—Thinks It Is Mountain Fever.

Butter Thirty Cents a Pound, Dentist Bill \$23 and Dr. Joseph Gets \$50 for Attending Lallee.

SEPTEMBER, 1878:

Fried Chicken for Sunday Dinner at Bordeaux.

Hi Kelly Buys Jim Lane's Horses, Hunton Takes 25 Head.

Tom Swan's Herd Passes Bordeaux.

Johnny Gordon, Road Ranch Proprietor at Uva, Called Father of Wheatland Irrigation.

Gordon Got a Stormy Welcome to Wyoming, Found Refuge with Billy Bacon and Later Bought Him Out.

Wattling Calves on the Nose at Box Elder Roundup.

Promises Governor Thayer to Haul 75,000 Pounds of Freight.

Drives 65 Miles from Horseshoe to Bordeaux in Day.

Little Bat and Sister Lallee Visit Cheyenne.

Fred Schwartz Had Road Ranch-Stage Station on Lodgepole Creek.

Mrs. Schwartz Loses Unborn Baby Fleeing from Drunken Cowboys.

Their Daughter, Minna Schwartz, Chorus Girl in Original "Prince of Pilsen" Cast, Marries Columnist Franklin P. Adams.

How Russell Thorp Became a Match-maker.

Cold Springs "Treasure Coach" Stage Robbery—a Case of Cold Blooded Murder.

W. G. Bullock Attends Political Meeting at Hi Kelly's.

A Nine Thousand Dollar Month for Hunton—But He Spent \$8,000.

OCTOBER, 1878:

Hostile Cheyenne Indians Cross R. R. Between Cheyenne and Laramie City.

Jim Bellamy Is Shotgun Man on Union Pacific Railroad.

Horseshoe Creek Battle as Told by John R. Smith.

Bullock's Squaw and Mexican Find Stolen Horses at Rock Creek.

Pease Nominated for Congress by Democrats at Rawlins Convention.

Bull Train Leaves Rock Creek for Fetterman
With 40 Tons of Sacked Corn.

J. W. Downey Chosen Republican Con-
gressional Candidate at Cheyenne.

Wyoming Cattlemen Shipping from Sidney,
Nebraska.

Tom Hunton and Dan Titus Kill Mountain
Sheep Near Bordeaux.

Zack Thomasson Range Manager for Swan
Company, Salary \$3600 a Year.

Rogers Surveying Land Along Chugwater
Creek.

Lallee and Hunton Go Traveling, "Noon"
at Gordon's, Spend Night at Tobe
Miller's on Cottonwood.

Six Thousand Dollar Month for Hunton—
Expenditures \$5,000.

NOVEMBER, 1878:

Old Timers Electioneering—Hunton Does
Not Vote.

Six Mile Hog Ranch Robbed—Mail Held Up
on Bozeman Trail—and Jim Berry's
Mysterious Absence.

Captain Coats Sells Chickens on the Side.

Tom Maxwell a Suicide at Dyer's Hotel.

George Via Sells Hay at \$8 per Ton.

Troop Movements To and From Fort
Fetterman.

The James Boys Had Outlaw Headquarters on Little Goose Creek.

Posse Comitatus Restrictions Hinder Troops in Preventing Mail Robbery.

More Details About the "Battle of Horseshoe Creek".

DECEMBER, 1878:

Moves Milk Ranch to Box Elder—Turns Shops Over to Robert Fryer.

Parks Freight Wagons for Winter—Turns Work Cattle Out to Graze—Pays Off "Train Hands".

From Bordeaux to Cheyenne—A Day's Drive With a Good Team.

Christmas Is "Absolute Holiday" at Bordeaux—Billy Bacon and Wife Call.

Sam Groves Has a Lot of Wages Coming.

How Bullwhacker Kellogg Helped Build Wyoming.

Noel Seminole Gets \$75 for Squatter's Right to a Good Ranch.

A \$40,000 Year for Hunton, of Which Maybe \$1,000 Was Profit.

Bull Train Freight Rates from Rock Creek to Fts. Fetterman and McKinney.

Part One - - 1878

JANUARY, 1878

The 1878 diary starts off with the usual and useful printed information, including calendar; the "Moon's Phases" for each day of the year; interest tables; table of wage scales, based on "the usual calculation of ten hours to a day", ranging from \$3 to \$24 per week and 5c to 40c per hour; postage rates; announcement of a stamp duty of 2c on all checks, drafts, notes and orders—and Rutherford B. Hayes was 19th President of the United States, inaugurated March 5, 1877.

"Tues, Jan 1 (Bordeaux). At Ranch. Sent John Winterling check for \$64.75 by Al Spencer (?). Nuts to press screw not come. Baling Patton's hay with square press. Great deal of snow on ground. Cold.

"Thurs, Jan 3 — (Bordeaux). At Ranch. No screw yet. Sullivan and son passed or rather here tonight. J. R. Smith arrived. Paid Sullivan \$100. Smith wants settlement on hay.

"Fri, Jan 4—(On Pole Creek). Started to Cheyenne with (J. R.) Smith horse back. Nooned at T. H. and went to Pole Creek. Snow very deep. Very windy."

The "T. H." Ranch, later owned by Silas Doty and Albert Chamberlain, was in the Goshen Hole country and probably part of the National Cattle Company's holdings, of which

Doty was manager in '78. Some ten years later when under Doty and Chamberlain ownership, the "T.H." gained distinction as one of the few large cattle outfits which survived the crash of '87 and '88. Since we have no knowledge that it was located on any of the stage roads of that day it seems likely that Mr. Hunton and J. R. Smith did not stick to the stage road on that long horseback ride through the deep snow. But whatever their route they apparently made it through to Schwartz's road ranch on Lodgepole Creek, some 45 miles south of Bordeaux, 18 miles north of Cheyenne.

"Sat, Jan 5—(Cheyenne). Staid at Pole Creek, got to Cheyenne 11 A.M. Could not raise money to pay Smith and telegraphed to have voucher sent for all hay delivered at (Fort) Fetterman.

"Sun, Jan 6—In Cheyenne doing worse ("worse" underscored by Hunton) than nothing. Weather improving.

"Mon, Jan 7—In Cheyenne. Murphy telegraphed that voucher would leave in mail tomorrow. Will have to wait here until Fryday. Fair weather.

"Tues, Jan 8—Loafing in Cheyenne is bad business. It's every night McDanniels and the Double Decker."

The "MacDanniels" above was probably McDaniel's theatre and amusement palace in Cheyenne, which was known as the Magic City in those days and pointed at by staid old communities like Denver for its elaborate bawdy-

houses, gambling hells, opium dens and bounding enthusiasm for sin in general.

Spaces in the diary for the next seven days, January 9 to 15 inclusive, are each heavily crossed with pen and ink as though to blot them out, so whatever Mr. Hunton was up to must have continued merrily on despite his twinges of conscience.

However, he did go back sometime later to the 11th and wrote in over the ink scratches with pencil—

"Fri, Jan 11—Settled with Smith for 4 tons 1,430 lbs of hay more than the Q.M. allowed me, amounting with \$58 interest I paid him, to \$288.25."

But after the 15th it was back to Bordeaux and down to business again, for one day, at least.

"Wed, Jan 16—(Bordeaux). In Cheyenne last night. Started home on Coach. John Denny driving. Nooned Pole Creek. Supped at (Portugee) Phillips. Got home 7½ P.M. Nice day."

"Thurs, Jan 17—(Bards Ranch). At Ranch (Bordeaux) last night. 12 M. started to Cheyenne in light wagon with nuts and screw to press. Jim Monroe with me."

"Fri, Jan 18—(Cheyenne). Staid at Bards last night. Colin Hunter and F. M. Phillips there. Started at daylight and went to Pole Creek to breakfast. Got to Cheyenne 11 A.M. Haas having nuts made

at Rail Road Shop. Will take two days to make them. New screw here. Telegraphed 1st National Omaha about \$5000 voucher."

"Bard's" was a road ranch, stage station and postoffice, all operated by Isaac N. Bard and his wife Rose at Little Bear, some thirty miles north of Cheyenne. Mr. Bard was also a diary keeper and his record, unpublished but quoted by historians, has added to the details and human interest of Wyoming pioneer life.

Once again we shall have to use our imagination concerning Mr. Hunton's activities in Cheyenne—he isn't telling:

"Sat, Jan 19—In Cheyenne.

"Sun, Jan 20—In Cheyenne.

"Mon, Jan 21—In Cheyenne. Screw nuts not done.

"Tues, Jan 22—(Bards Ranch). In Cheyenne last night. Bought horses of Terry (?) & Hunter for \$225. Noon, screw finished, started home. (Hi) Kelly with me. (Jim) Monroe with, leading and riding "Goose" and Frank. Man shot in town last night, shooter captured in stable ("stable" underscored by Hunton). Jeff Caar give (us) poll books to take to Winterling."

"Goose and Frank" may have been the two horses Mr. Hunton and J. R. Smith rode through the deep snow to Cheyenne (January 4th entry).

Careful reading of past entries in which

"Missouri Jim" and Jim Monroe are mentioned makes it reasonable to assume, we think, that "Missouri Jim" was Jim Monroe's nickname.

And the "Jeff Caar" above was undoubtedly T. Jeff Carr, Cheyenne sheriff during these boisterous times.

"Wed, Jan 23—(Bordeaux). Staid at Bards last night. Nooned at (Hi) Kelly's. Got home 3 P.M. Clark and Browning cutting sage brush. Men clearing bottom. Nice day.

"Thurs, Jan 24 — (F. M. Phillips Ranch). Went to Phillips with baling party composed of Sam Groves, Dan Titus, Chester Clark, Jim Monroe, Van DeWalker. Put old screw in press.

"Fri, Jan 25 — (Bordeaux). Staid at Phillips last night. Put screw in press and made few bales when screw comcd cutting, had to take it out. Went to Ranch (Bordeaux) after new screw. Wulfjen here to-night. Curly Jim and other teams passed.

"Sat, Jan 26—(Bordeaux). Went to Phillips with new screw. Mr. (W. G.) Bullock with me. Found old screw running all right. P.M. screw started cutting badly, took it out and put in new one which did not work right. Went to Ranch, Dan (Titus) and Mr. Bullock with me. George Boswell started to (Fort) Fetterman on black 'slash-two' pony.

"Sun, Jan 27—(Bordeaux). Working in Blk Smith Shop on screw and other

press irons. Dan Titus took them to Phillips.

"Mon, Jan 28—(Bullock's Place). At Ranch last night. Went to Phillips place where I am baling hay. Press running all right, using the old screw. Went to (W.G.) Bullock place, Squaws with me.

"Tues, Jan 29 — (Baptiste Garnier's Place). Staid at Bullock's place last night. Went to Three Mile Ranch to R.R. Bond election. Squaws voted. Result 72 for and 17 votes against bonds. Phillips, Bloomer, Font (?) Markel and others worked actively for the bonds. (Dave) Cottier & Stirks teams. (Posey) Ryan's & Kamer's teams returned from (Fort) Fetterman, Ryan & Kamer quit hauling."

At the above election voters of Laramie county, which then included old Fort Laramie and the area that is now divided between Platte and Goshen counties, approved a bond issue of \$150,000 as a "subsidy", if you please, to encourage the Colorado Central Railroad in building a line from Cheyenne into the Black Hills. We do not know if the railroad or anyone else ever got the money authorized by this bond issue, but nine more years were to come and go before the rails finally came stretching north from Cheyenne to Chugwater.

An even more intriguing feature of this 1878 polling, to us at least, is that Mr. Hunton again took pains to record, as he did in previous elections, that the "Squaws voted" right along

with their white men. Wyoming takes proper pride in having been the first state to give women the right to vote. But whatever additional and progressive motives may have inspired Wyoming's founding fathers to thus extend the franchise to their women, it appears clear that they were also maintaining a precedent and tradition established by the original pioneers of earliest territorial days when most of the distaff side were native daughters of the Sioux.

"Wed, Jan 30—(Bordeaux). Staid at Baptiste's last night. Lallee and Mary with me. Went up the Laramie. Press working tolerably well. (Dave) Cottier and Stirks will haul hay and go to (Fort) Fetterman again. (F.M.) Phillins went with me to Ranch on his way East."

That long ago evening, more than eight months after their breakup, which the mysterious little Mary and Lallee spent with John Hunton at the home of her brother (Little Bat) is not the only reason to believe that the bond between these two—or perhaps it was three—was not easily or quickly broken.

On October 22nd, 1955, Mrs. Pauline E. (Smith) Peyton, a venerable pioneer woman of Douglas, Wyoming, graciously wrote down some of her early childhood memories for us. Among them were the following:

"The things I recall about LaLee, Hunton's French and Indian wife, were the things that might make an impression upon the mind of a very small child in addition to

the things I often heard our neighbors, the George Powells, and my parents discuss in later years.

"Outstanding in my memory (is) an incident that took place the last time I saw LaLee Mr. Hunton and my father, Edwin C. Smith, had been standing by a wagon talking for some time when La Lee, whom I admired very much, explained to my mother that she wore the soft, high top shoes that were trimmed in red to please Hunton. Hunton got those shoes for her.

"Childlike I followed La Lee to the yard and saw her hold out both hands toward Hunton as she said, 'La Lee go Hunton'. It seemed to me that Hunton's face had been very dark all the time that morning. He caught both of her hands in his own and held them beneath his chin for a few moments, then threw her hands away saying shortly, 'No, La Lee can't go'. She went into our house and sat in the same chair all day, refusing to go to our table to eat."

Mrs. Peyton is not sure of the year when this happened, but thinks it may been in 1882 or 1883, "because there were other Indians on the George Powell ranch at that time." Certainly it was a considerable while after the original rift between LaLee and Hunton in 1877—about two years before Mrs. Peyton was born. If this scene did take place in '82 or '83, Mr. Hunton was but newly married, which may partly explain why his face looked "dark" that morning

he "threw her hands away". Here is Mrs. Peyton's conclusion to this poignant episode:

"Mother told me not to lean upon La Lee, but something in her expressive eyes seemed to want me. I sat on the floor and traced the button holes in La Lee's shoes, from the bottom to the top, marveling at the red leather which faced the openings.

"Years later my mother said she was glad when our neighbor, Mrs. Powell, came and took La Lee home with her, because La Lee had a little cough at that time.

"Many years later Mrs. Powell told me that she had been so sorry for some of the Indian women, especially La Lee, Cushia and Ann Hornback, she tried to get Mr. Powell to see if he could make some arrangements for those three to live in the Hornback tent on their ranch after Hornback was killed. But she guessed there was nothing he could do about them.

"They all felt very sorry for La Lee because they were of the opinion that her father, a Frenchman, had been killed when she was a child by the enemy of white men even though she was part Sioux herself. I have no way of knowing how true that idea was, but it was the general impression that I gathered from things that were told to me."

That the Smiths and the Powells were correct in their belief that Lallee's French father was killed by Indians is substantiated by Mr. Hunton. In his story of Little Bat, Lallee's bro-

ther, (see page 104, Vol. 1) he tells of the killing of Mons. Garnier, a French Canadian, in 1856, where Deer Creek flows into the North Platte river and Glenrock, Wyoming, now stands.

The names of Edwin C. (Ed) Smith, Mrs. Peyton's father, and of his close friend, George Powell are familiar to readers of this journal. Both men were associated with Mr. Hunton in numerous rugged undertakings from 1875 on.

Mr. Smith was a native of Trenton, N. J. He attended school in both Trenton and New York City, learned the harness and saddle makers trade in Quincy, Illinois, and then went on west to the Yampa river country in Colorado before there was even a Territory of Wyoming. In 1868 he joined the army as a volunteer to fight Indians and was honorably discharged from Co. G, 19th Vol. Kansas Cavalry at Fort Hays, Kansas, in April, 1869. Following this military service Smith bought four horses and a wagon and started west again, accompanied by William Paull, whose sister, Nancy, Mrs. Peyton's mother, was to become his bride nearly ten years later. At Rock Creek, an early freight-center in what is now Albany County, Wyoming, they became acquainted with George Powell. A lasting friendship developed between Powell and Smith and both men eventually took up land and settled on lower LaPrelle Creek in the vicinity of Ft. Fetterman.

In 1878 Ed Smith was employed as a

foreman by the Benjamin Weaver Cattle Company and started the Y-Y ranch where Mrs. Peyton was born November 29, 1879.

Mr. Smith and his hired man were taking a load of baled hay to Sage creek in the spring of 1897 when an April blizzard struck them. While fighting through the storm Smith was stricken with appendicitis but struggled on to the Lester Clelland ranch at Fetterman where he died.

"Thurs, Jan 31 — (Bordeaux). At Ranch all day doing nothing. Openheimer, Mathewson, Miller and others staid here last night on way to Cheyenne. Posey Ryan and Joe Kamer camped near here on way to Cheyenne. Settled with and paid them \$200 each and owe them a balance. Tony Early passed, paid him \$800. Sent 1st National Bank Omaha my note for \$900 and drew on it for \$800. (T.A.) Kent went to Cheyenne on Coach."

Mr. Hunton made no entries in his "Cash Account" for January, but did leave some interesting memoranda.

This note obviously refers to brands of 1878:

"Tom, Sun, . . . , left side; O. P. Johnson, O, right side; Sam Foley, 76, left side; Jim Cantling (?), C-C, left hip."

And following is probably the tariff Hunton charged for hauling from Rock Creek—varying with the season of the year:

"Freight from Rock to Fetterman McKinney

<i>July</i>	87.....	1.65
<i>Aug</i>	88.....	1.65
<i>Sept</i>	85.....	1.80
<i>Oct</i>	1.00.....	2.10
<i>Nov</i>	1.30.....	2.45
<i>Dec</i>	2.25.....	4.00
<i>Apr</i>	1.50.....	2.90
<i>May</i>	97.....	1.90
<i>June</i>	87.....	1.65"

A third memorandum reads:

"SOLD Cheyenne & B. H. Stage Company stack of hay 60 x 20 x 9—10,800, divided (by) 428 — 25 tons 100 lbs., \$250. 2 tons \$15.00."

FEBRUARY, 1878

"Fri, Feb 1—(Bordeaux). At Ranch all day. (Posey) Ryan & (Joe) Kamer passed to Cheyenne. Colin Hunter and Abbott passed with horses bought of Phillips. Wulfjen passed to Cheyenne. Men got load of posts. Wild went to Cheyenne with his Rights (Wrights perhaps) teams.

"Sat, Feb 2—(Bordeaux). Went to (F. M.) Phillips where I am baling hay. Most done baling there. Returned to Ranch. Tom Mathews arrived from (Fort) Fetterman and reports (L. P.) Justy drunk and things running badly at Fetterman. Patton on way to Cheyenne. Owens returned from Cheyenne and brought fence wire.

"Sun, Feb 3 — (Bordeaux). Settled with Tom Mathews. Sent grain, wire, etc to hay balers by Fritz. Patton went to Cheyenne for freight. Dan McUlvane passed, signed petition for bridge across Chug and took it in to county commissioners.

"Mon, Feb. 4 — (Bordeaux). Tom Mathews started East last night. (John) Owens brought iron. Dan shod "Posy". Commenced making wire fence.

"Tues, Feb 5—(Bordeaux). Making wire fence. Dan helping me. William Hanson quit work. Letter from Fryer about repairs on wagons. Stebbins Post & Co. loaning me \$400.

"Wed, Feb 6 — (On Cottonwood). Started to (Fort) Fetterman. Fritz with me, horseback. Dick, Posey, Sandy horses with me. Nooned at Phillips and given directions to hay party. Bought Birdie horse of Winterling for \$125.

"Thurs, Feb 7 — (On Horse Shoe). Staid at Cottonwood last night. Stopped at Horse Shoe to noon and concluded to stay all night.

"Fri, Feb 8—(Dailey's Ranch). Staid on Horse Shoe last night. Saw Col. Bacon. Saw Lallee's horse that was stolen by Indians on Chug May 4th, '76. Went to Dailey's. Cloudy & stormy.

"Sat, Feb 9—(Fort Fetterman). Staid at Dailey's last night. Sent Fritz to Box Elder with three horses. I went to Post. Found things running smoothe. Ed Smith butchering. Got money for Jan. beef. Got voucher for mule. (Dave) Cottier unloaded and took about 1000 lbs. wire to Chug (Bordeaux). (George) Powell & Mc-Millan's teams started to Laramie river for hay. Storming & snowing.

"Sun, Feb 10—(Fort Fetterman). At Post last night. (L. P.) Justy continues to butcher.

"Mon, Feb 11—(Fort Fetterman). At Post last night. (George) Powell and others in Post. Paid (John) Boyd some money.

"Tues, Feb 12—(Little Bat Garnier's

Camp). At Post last night. Went to Box Elder via Milk Ranch. Found all the posts that had been taken up have been burned and most of the poles. Will not continue (George) Levers (the blacksmith) here. Found everything all right at Cow Ranch. Cattle looking well.

"Wed, Feb 13—(Cow Ranch on Box Elder). At Cow Ranch. Went to "Bat's" camp, he packing out wood. Sent to Laramie City by (George) Powell to have brands recorded. Will go on a hunt. Snowed last night.

"Thurs, Feb 14—(Hunting Camp in Timber). At Cow Ranch last night. Went to Canons E. of Deer Creek on hunt. Fritz and Bat (Baptiste Garnier) with me. Packed. Killed two fine black tailed bucks. Snow very deep. Cannot hunt much.

"Fri, Feb 15—(Cow Ranch). Camped in timber. Blowing and snowing so hard cannot hunt. Packed up and went to Cow Ranch. 2 Georges drove beef. Very windy all day. 8 P.M. snowing.

"Sat, Feb 16—(Cow Ranch). George Boswell come from Fort (Fetterman) with mail. Letter from 1st National Omaha crediting me \$882.30. Letter from Ramsey. Sent Fritz for Bat to go to Fort for corn.

"Sun, Feb 17—(Fort Fetterman). At Cow Ranch last night. Went to Post with "Bat". Heard Arapahoes had row among

themselves and killed Blk Coal. Sent corn and grub to ranch by Fisher. Told George Levers I would run shop myself. Jim butchered. (Colin) Hunter's train here. Telegram from Tom Hunton baling party at home.

"Mon, Feb 18 — (Fort Fetterman). (At) Butcher Shop. Looking over and comparing old papers. Called on C. O. Windy.

"Tues, Feb 19 — (Fort Fetterman). Went to Milk Ranch (on LaPrele). Compared accts. with Geo. Levers. Had Birdie horse shod. Wilson & Willon at Post. Give E. J. Smith order on Nagle for 150\$ Mdse. Windy.

"Wed, Feb 20—(Fort Fetterman). At Post last night. Ed Smith and I went north of Platte about 20 miles to creek with some timber on it, returning killed Blk Tail buck.

"Thurs, Feb 21 — (Fort Fetterman). At Post last night. Went across the Platte after deer and killed 3. Dr. Hoff, Capt. Coats, Lt. Foster and Ed Smith with me. Brought all the deer in and give them away. Powell and McMillan's train arrived with hay.

"Fri, Feb 22—(Fort Fetterman). P & M's train unloaded. Lt. Fowler arrived from Fort Custer. Traded him forage for here and on the road.

"Sat, Feb 23—(Fort Fetterman Hos-

pital). Settled up with Geo. Levers. Started to Box Elder with Powell. Team ran off; fell out of wagon and broke my left leg. Got in hospital at 12 o'clock at night. I am 39 yrs. 1 mo. and 5 days old today."

One late winter day in the early 1920's a "ground blizzard" struck the Fort Laramie area. A brittle sun shone overhead but the wind's biting cold dug deep and visibility on the ground was close to zero. John Hunton, then in his 80's, and the writer were jogging home to the Old Fort from the "Station", which was Hunton's name for the little town of Fort Laramie on the Burlington railroad, about two and one half miles northeast of the abandoned post.

It was one of those days when the blowing snow piles itself into great drifts and covers tracks almost as fast as they are made. We were driving a young, new-broke team to a spring wagon, hauling a little jag of coal. After crossing the old military bridge across the Platte about all that one could see was an expanse of swirling white. A lonely fence post now and then were the only guides. Part of the time we would be on the old wagon road, part of the time bouncing across the prairie over hidden hillocks and swales while the young team pranced and pressed hard against the bit, eager to be off and get back to that warm stable at top speed.

Mr. Hunton, hanging on to the hand grip

of the seat, jolting up, down and sideways with the wagon, seemed to be enjoying it more than we were—as though it reminded him of something. The old gentleman turned and peered at us through the opening in the upturned collar of his cowhide coat with a quizzical smile. Perhaps he was curious to see if we were concerned, as indeed we were. And that concern was not noticeably lessened when he shouted into our ear above the whistling storm. "Almost got my everlasting on a day like this!" "How come?" we shouted back.

After the horses were unharnessed and fed and we were warming up by a hot stove, he told us. It went something like this: said he was driving from Fort Fetterman to his ranch on the Box Elder when the wheels of his wagon struck something and almost overturned. The horses lunged and started to run. In trying to hold them he lost balance and fell to the ground. Found he could not get up. His leg was broken.

While his traveling companion (who must have been George Powell from the above entry) made his way on foot for help, Hunton lay there from early afternoon until late at night before a rescue party finally found him. He recalled that snow blew over him and figured that may have saved him from freezing to death. He considered that accident about the "closest call" he ever had.

"Sun, Feb 24—(In Hospital). Telegraphed to Col (W. G.) Bullock and Tom (Hunton). Also wrote them by

mail. George Boswell commcd waiting on me. Clear and pleasant.

"Mon, Feb 25—(In Hospital). Wrote to Col. Bullock and Tom by Powell. Ordered wagon from Haas and bill of mdse from (E.) Nagle. Good big day.

"Tues, Feb 26—(In Hospital). Doing very well. Powell started below, Bat with him. Comcd getting my meals from (Jno. O.) Ward. Slept well last night.

"Wed, Feb 27—(In Hospital). Getting along very well. Rested well last night. Dr. changed position of foot this morning, which made it pain very much all day. Chester Clark arrived from Chug and went in to Box Elder with (George) Drake. Letters from 1st National Omaha, (2) Mrs. Hall, Cave & Cole (?). Bids opened for wood. (George) Powell lowest \$7. Nice day.

"Thurs, Feb 28—(In Hospital). Rested badly last night. Easy this morning. Leg dressed at 11 A.M. and quite uneasy all day. Drake in. All officers in to see me today. Leg pains all day."

Hunton shows receipts totaling \$3,317.95 for February, 1878, and expenditures of \$3,350.33. However, he included \$1,024 "cash on hand" and also that \$400 he borrowed from Stebbins Post & Co. Among other receipts were \$492.40 on Beef Contracts and \$1,382.30 from the 1st National Bank of Omaha.

And these were some of his expenditures:

W. L. Patton \$15, Tom Mathews \$58, Posey Ryan and Joe Kamer \$150 each, Thomas Hunton \$100, Mrs. Good \$430, John Boyd \$50, Tony Early \$800, George Levers \$50 and \$169.08, gargling oil 50 cents, Powell & McMillan \$25, Ambulance driver \$2, E. Nagle \$200, Sam Groves \$200, L. P. Justy \$120, and Baptiste Garnier (Little Bat) \$12.

MARCH, 1878

"Fri, Mar 1—(In Hospital). Rested badly last night. Great pain. (George) Drake in. Govt. sale of horses and mules. Drake bought one. Snow last night and some today.

"Sat, Mar 2—(In Hospital). Rested tolerably well latter part of night but have been in great pain all day. Mails from N. and E. arrived. Telegram from Sam Groves and answered it. Good deal talk about expedition.

"Sun, Mar 3—(In Hospital). Suffered much last night and all day. Was annoyed by o'd George Levers and bought what stuff he had in the shop for \$100. Ed C. Smith started be'ow. Wrote to Maj. Hawkins, 1st Natl. Bnk. Omaha, I. Ramsey and others.

"Mon, Mar 4—(In Hospital). Suffered much last night. Leg dressed this morning and rested tolerably easy all day.

(Scott) Murray moved to Milk Ranch.

"Tues, Mar 5—(Ft. Fetterman Hospital). Rested easy last night, not much pain. Fever abating and general health good. Maj. Wham, paymaster, arrived here and went on to (Fort) McKinney. (E.) Tillotson went with.

"Wed, Mar 6—(Ft. Fetterman Hospital). Rested badly last night. Leg dressed this morning and put in small splints which feel much more comfortable. Parker's govt. train here on way to (Fort) McKinney. Sit up some today for first time since I was hurt.

"Thurs, Mar 7—(Ft. Fetterman Hospital). Spent very uncomfortable night with much pain. Leg dressed this morning and only one splint left on. Sit up and smoked and walked a little to try crutches. P. M. walked a little but there was such a rush of blood to leg that I could not stand it long. Had a long talk with Dr. Hoof (Huff) about cattle raising.

"Fri, Mar 8—(Ft. Fetterman Hospital). Suffered considerable pain all night and rested badly. Leg dressed this morning and feeling well. Terrific wind and snow storm all last night and today.

"Sat, Mar 9—(Ft. Fetterman Hospital). Suffered much pain last night and today. Terrific wind and snow storm continues without abatement.

"Sun, Mar 10—(Ft. Fetterman Hospi-

tal). Rested tolerable well last night, got much more sleep than usual. Snow storm still raging, not much wind. Leg painful. Restless. Snowing.

"Mon, Mar 11—(Ft. Fetterman Hospital). Restless and not much sleep last night. Still storming hard. Snow very deep. David Cottier here. Paid him & Stirks \$250 each. P. & McM's (Powell & McMillan) on LaBonte with hay. No mail yet although it was due Fryday. Snowing.

"Tues, Mar 12—(Ft. Fetterman Hospital). Restless and leg painful last night. Snow very deep and still a little falling. 17th day! No mail yet. Leg painful, not dressed today. My appetite continues good. General Health good. Wrote to Tip, Sis, Bullock & Tom, Johnson & Walker. Snowy."

"Wed, Mar 13—(Ft. Fetterman Hospital). Spent restless night, leg little painful. Doctor left all splints and bandages off today but bound it at night. Jack O'Brien to see me with order from Jno. Boyd for 35\$ and one from (Dave) Cottier for 6.50. Cottier started home today. Sent mail from here on packs. No Eastern mail. (Fort) McKinney mail arrived. Snow melting fast. Nice warm day.

"Thurs, Mar 14—(Ft. Fetterman Hospital). Restless night. Leg painful. Easy today. Sit up nearly all day. Walked around the house a little. George Drake come in

and reported snow deeper on Box Elder than here. Had seen no dead cattle. Black mare has a good colt. Snow melting fast. Nice day.

"Fri, Mar 15—(Ft. Fetterman Hospital). Restless and leg painful all night. (George) Drake and Jim drove beeves and killed. Party who went to LaBontee for mail returned without it and report the snow very deep. So we still have no mail from the East. Walked about some today and went outdoors for the first time since I was hurt. Very fine day.

"Sat. Mar 16—(Ft. Fetterman Hospital). Restless and leg hurtful. Walked out today and went as far as Q. M. office, remaining several hours. Snow nearly all gone. Borrowed 500\$ of Scott Murray. Small bone in my leg does not seem to be united.

"Sun, Mar 17—(Ft. Fetterman Hospital). Restless and sleepless last night but not much pain in my leg. Would have nightmare every time I closed my eyes to sleep. The nightmare is assuming a rather serious phase with me as am troubled with it every night. It seems to be stoppage of the circulation of the blood. In my case the heart seems to cease to work. Powell & Fryer, Tillotson and Maj Wain (or Wham, the paymaster) arrived. Went to Sutlers Store today.

"Mon, Mar 18—(Ft. Fetterman Hos-

pital). (George) Powell reports much more snow below than here. Powell and Fryer went to Box Elder. Paymaster started to Cheyenne. Wrote to T. Hunton. Mail arrived. Went to (John O.) Ward's to dinner and to the store and was out nearly half the day. Leg hurting after my return, bone does not seem to be entirely united.

"Tues, Mar 19—(Ft. Fetterman Hospital). Walked to Q. M.'s office early this morning. Staid a short time and went back to hospital; leg hurting considerably. Dave Myers on way to (Fort) McKinney to take charge of pack trains. Went to Ward's to dinner and staid out all day at butcher shop, etc. Mail went East.

"Wed. Mar 20 — (Ft. Fetterman Hospital). Walking about nearly all day. Doctor took all the splints off my leg. Tom Mathews arrived and brought me some letters. Reports many catt'e killed by storm between Cheyenne and Laramie River.

"Thurs, Mar 21 — (Ft. Fetterman Hospital). Crockett arrived. Parker's train arrived from (Fort) McKinney. Tom Mathews went to Ranch.

"Fri, Mar 22 — (Ft. Fetterman Hospital). Rested tolerable well last night. Out all day. George Drake here. Wrote to Campbell, Cave, Stebbins P. (Post) & Co., 1st National Chey., J. M. Moore

& Co. Lt. King and detachment captured mules stolen from Parker's train. Mail arrived. Bill Ogg took hay and 5 sacks grain to Ranch."

That "Lt. King" mentioned above was in all probability the soldier-novelist of later years, General Charles King. In 1876 young Lt. King served in the campaign against the Sioux and was appointed adjutant of his regiment by General Merritt. He remained on the western frontier until 1879 when he was forced to temporarily retire from active military duty, with the rank of captain, by an old wound received in a fight with Apache In-



*Deserted and Alone — Old Bedlam
before Restoration.*

dians at Sunset Pass in 1874. In 1898, recovered in health, Capt. King volunteered for

the War with Spain and was appointed Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

General King wrote many novels of military life. Among them were, "Campaigning with Crook" and, perhaps most famous of all, "Laramie or the Queen of Bedlam", an exciting tale of mysterious goings on in Old Bedlam, the bachelor officers' quarters at Fort Laramie. Old Bedlam, a large two-story frame structure, has been restored by the National Park Service since the old Fort became a national monument.

With the passage of time a warm and lasting friendship developed between Hunton and King. For Christmas 1903 the general sent Mr. Hunton a copy of his latest work, "A Conquering Crops Badge and Other Stories". He inscribed it, "To Jack Hunton for 'Auld Lang Syne' from Charles King." And preserved throughout the years between the pages of this book is the following letter:

"Milwaukee, Wis.,
Dec. 9, 1903.

"Dear Old Jack Hunton:

"Like a breeze from the Black Hills came the sight of your sign manual, and with it, as I'm alive, a picture of all that is left of old Bedlam. Fifteen years ago some of the 7th Infantry fellows sent me a photo of the building as it was then — in good repair, with awnings and hammocks and smiling women in pretty summer garb &

fringed parasols and all that sort of thing on its broad piazzas. And now here comes your picture of the melancholy ghost of it.

"Good Lord — what memories rise up at sight of it — and of your familiar name. Those were the heroic days of the frontier as lived together, old friend, and I thank you for keeping in remembrance the youngster you knew when he was 'Jule' Mason's senior sub in 'K' Troop & later Merritt's adjutant of the old 5th Cavalry.

"Just a month ago General Carr and I were talking it all over in St. Louis & rest you sure your name & the old ranch and 'the Chug' were far from forgotten.

"Merry Christmas to you & many a glad and prosperous New Year — I'm sending a little souvenir by the same post.

Yours as of old,

CHARLES KING".

Such were the nostalgic musings of General Charles King more than half a century ago — even so, we are still way ahead of our story and must turn back yet another quarter of a century to find out what next with John Hunton and that still very tender leg of his —

"Sat, Mar 23 — (Ft. Fetterman Hospital). Had a good night's rest. Walking about all day. George Drake started to Chug after wagon. McMillan unloaded hay and took 15 bales to Box Elder Ranch.

"Mon, Mar 25 — (Ft. Fetterman Hospital). Rested badly last night. Walked and sit around all day. Tom & Clark drove cattle for beef. Wrote to Q. M. asking that hay contract be abrogated. P. (post) Q. M. recommended application. (Charly) Clay's & (Heck) Reel's bull outfits arrived here from (Fort) McKinney.

"Tues, Mar 26 — (Ft. Fetterman Hospital). Rested well last night. Walked and sit about until 2 P.M. then lay down and remained indoors bal. of the day. 3 P.M. comcd. raining.

"Wed, Mar 27—(Ft. Fetterman Hospital). Housed up all day. Unwell with cold and fever. George Powell married. Rained all last night, snowed all day."

And George Powell's bride, according to "Progressive Men of the State of Wyoming" (published in 1903), was Miss Maggie Scogille, of Iowa. They had two daughters, Maud and Gertrude. George Powell was also born in Iowa in 1847. He went to Denver and started freighting in 1865, came to Wyoming in 1867 and worked for the government at Fort Laramie for about a year. Then back to freighting until 1881, when he settled down on his ranch near Fort Fetterman.

"Thurs, Mar 28 — (Ft. Fetterman Hospital). Housed up all day an account of weather. Feeling tolerably well. Leg hurting a little and experiencing un-

pleasantness from cold in head and sort of a general soreness all over. Snowed all night and part of day, considerable wind.

"Fri, Mar 29 — (Ft. Fetterman Hospital). Rested tolerable well last night. Walked to C. O.'s and Q. M.'s office this morning and got permission to move butcher shop. Mail from East but nothing for me. Govt. Stable fell in. Quite muddy.

"Sat, Mar 30 — (Ft. Fetterman Hospital). Rested well last night. Walking about until 3 P. M. George Drake arrived with light wagon and reports severe storm below. Mail arrived from East. Very muddy but drying fast.

Sun, Mar 31 — (Box Elder Ranch). Rested well last night. Paid bill, left hospital and went to Box Elder. Looked around and laid out fence, etc."

Hunton was in the Fort Fetterman hospital from February 23 to March 30, some thirty-five days. Among his expenditures for March he lists "Hospital bill \$41." And George Boswell, the man who "Comcd waiting-on" him the day after his accident, received \$13. For his meals during this period Mr. Hunton paid "Jno. O. Ward board \$50." Apparently hospital and nursing care in 1878 were not as expensive as they are today — but chances are the services were not as good, either.

His recorded expenditures for March added up to \$4,050.08. Among them were:

Stebbins Post & Co. \$1500 and \$469.33; W. H. Murphy \$200; Richard Stirk \$250; John Long \$200 and various amounts, presumably wages for the most part, to Chester Clark, L. P. Justy, Geo. Levers, David Cotter, John Boyd, Fritz, Geo. Drake, Baptiste Garnier and Bill Ogg.

Hunton's receipts totaled \$4,098.38 and included: Beef contract \$312.85; 1st National Omaha \$3,225, and Scott Murray, a loan, \$500.

Some years later, in 1887, Nurse George Boswell turned business man and built a store at Uva, a few miles from the present town of Wheatland. Uva was booming that year. Terminal of the new railroad from Cheyenne, folks thought it would become "the town" of that area — but neighboring Wheatland, then unborn, later beat poor Uva to the punch, left her a whistling post.

APRIL, 1878

"Mon, Apr 1 — (Box Elder Ranch). Went to shops, had horses shod. Went to Post (Fetterman). Drew money for March beef. Left instructions with all employees what to do for next month. Teams got to shop.

"Tues, Apr 2 — (Enroute to Bordeaux). Started to Chug. Nooned on Labontee. Road muddy.

"Wed, Apr 3 — (Bordeaux). Staid on Horse Shoe last night. Nooned at (F. M.) Phillips. Got home 5 P.M. Everything seems to be all right. Men work cleaning off meadows.

"Thurs, Apr 4 — (Bordeaux). Rested well last night. Lord's team passed with my timber for Fetterman. Hunter's Govt. train passed to Ft. McKinney. Men cutting brush and burning grass. Col. Bacon went to C. Coffee's. Tom Read went to McKinney with Hunter's train."

Tom Reed was an outlaw, one of the "Persimmon Bill" Chamber's gang of stage robbers and horse thieves. His alias was Frank James, or maybe it was vice versa. However that may be, 1878 was a big year for Tom Reed in his chosen field. But whether he was the "Tom Read" above who went to Ft. Fetterman with Colin Hunter's wagon train is not known.

"Fri, Apr 5 — (Bordeaux). Rested well last night. Foot & ankle considerably swollen. Tom (Hunton) went to Cheyenne with (John) Owens & Osborn. Men at work in field on fence and bars. Snyder and man, Wulfjen, Nick Janis and Mrs. Ecoffey here to dinner.

"Sat, Apr 6 — (Bordeaux). Rested well, foot swollen. Nick & company, Snyder & man staid all night. Snyder left on coach 8 A.M. Bob Hamilton,

Prown & Yates wagonmaster, here. Loan him \$20. Ke'ly & family here. Paid Kelly 25\$ for Lord. Col. Bacon went to Charly Coffee's to work.

"Mon. Apr 8 — (Bordeaux). Settled up with and paid off Dave Cottier, Dick Stirk & Joe Kamer. George Drake and Wm. Hanson went to Cheyenne. Sam Groves at work in field. (Jim) Monroe gardening. Cottier went home. Bill Waln come to Ranch.

"Tues thru Thursday, Apr 9 to 12 — (Bordeaux). Bill Waln and men working in field. Nothing particular going on.

"Fri. Apr 12 — (Bordeaux). Mr. (W. G.) Bullock. Tom (Hunton) & George Drake returned from town (Cheyenne). Sent oil to (Fort) Fetterman.

"Sat. Apr 13 — (Bordeaux). Give my note dated 11 to Stebbins Post & Co. for \$400 payable in 40 days which will be May 20. Bill Waln started to (Fort) Fetterman. Making fence around garden. Sent photographs to Sister. Kelly went to Fort Laramie. Cloudy, cold & snow.

"Sun. Apr 14 — (Bordeaux). Nothing doing. Tom went hunting killed antelope. Bill Hanson come to Ranch. Ezelle (Shorty) come to Ranch. Snowed and rained.

"Mon. Apr 15 — (Bordeaux). Making fence around field. Tom Huffman & others here. (Hi) Kelly went home. I.t.

Hunter and recruits camped here. Bargained with Ezelle (Shorty) to go on roundup.

"Tues, Apr 16 — (Bordeaux). Making fence etc. Shorty (Ezelle) comcd work. Comcd repairing ware house.

"Wed, Apr 17 — (Bordeaux). Not doing much. Baptiste Pourier (Big Bat) here last night. Rye Hecht here. Both left afternoon. Snowing nearly all day."

Possibly the "Rye Hecht" above was Reinhold E. Hecht, a native of Pennsylvania, who came to Wyoming about 1870, got a job at Cheyenne freighting on the bull trains that daily plodded their way north, and later established one of Albany County's pioneer ranch families.

"Fri, Apr 19 — (Bordeaux). Work on fence across the Creek. Paid William Hanson off. Sent Shorty (Ezelle) to Bullock place after steeples (staples). Bargained with Charly Wild to bring me load of freight from Cheyenne at 85c per 100. He left here today for Cheyenne.

"Sat, Apr 20 — (Hi Kelly's Ranch). Making fence. William Hanson discharged for drunkenness, stole my pistol and left. Went to Kelly's in light wagon with women.

"Sun, Apr 21 — (Bordeaux). Staid at Kelly's last night. Talked about and made arrangements for roundup. Ashenfelter and others here. Went home. Men

went to Goshen's Hole but found but few cattle.

"Mon, Apr 22 — (Bordeaux). Men working on ware house. Took two rides today. Received statement from 1st National Bank of Omaha.

"Tues, Apr 23 — (Bordeaux). Men working on warehouse. Rode to Chug Springs to see Mr. Osborn about the pistol Wm. Hanson took from me. Osborne dined here. Lt. King passed. Clark & Browning finished work on brush cutting.

"Thurs, Apr 25 — (F. M. Phillips Ranch). Working on ditch and sage brush. Wulfjen & family here to dinner on their way to Sabile. Colin Hunter dined here. Hunter and I went to Phillips in light wagon. Ed Caving got badly hurt last night.

"Fri, Apr 26—(Bordeaux). Staid at Phillips last night. Got Phillips to indorse a number of blank proposals for me. Went home. Roundup party here to go to Goshens Hole. Working on ditch and brush. McKinstry's Govt. train passed from North to South. Branded some calves.

"Sat, Apr 27—(Bordeaux). Working on ditch. (John) Owens here branding and cutting colts. Cut two belonging to Boyd. Roundup party started to Goshens Hole. I sent Ezelle (Shorty) with three horses to represent me. Numpa (name un-

derscored by Hunton) come to Ranch. Murphy, Stage Company Blk Smith, here.

"Sun, Apr 28 — (Bordeaux). Bill Waln come with ox teams from (Fort) Fetterman and loaded freight, about 14,000 lbs. (Charly) Wild arrived from Cheyenne with freight.

"Mon, Apr 29 — (Bordeaux). Bill Waln started to Fetterman with ox teams. Wild went to Cheyenne, took 5 bbls. tallow. Men working on ditches. Made wire stretchers. Duval come to Ranch. Tom Webster come to Ranch.

"Tues, Apr 30—(Bordeaux). Working on ditch. (Hi) Kelly here to dinner looking for horses. Squaws & Numpa (or Nampa) went to Laramie River. Nothing new."

Mr. Hunton continues to not get rich fast according to his "Cash Account". In April he shows receipts of \$898.75 as follows: Beef Contract \$262.50, Stebbins Post & Co. \$400, 1st National Bk Omaha \$200 and Tom Hunton \$36.25. His expenditures for the month totaled \$1,248.62. Among them were: to L. P. Justy \$150, Geo. McMillan \$30, Wm. Smily \$20, E. Nagle \$186.71, Tom Hunton \$50 (\$20 of which were to buy a watch), David Cottier \$146, Joe Kamer \$70, Dick Stirks \$2.60, George Drake \$110, William Hanson (the pistol stealing gent) \$20, Nagle & Wulfjen \$88.50, S. F. Hall \$10, Chas. Wild \$160, Posey Ryan \$32.36, J. & W. W. Sullivan

\$100, Pedler for oranges 75c, Black Smith Murphy \$3.00—and Lallee \$3.00.

It appears from a number of entries that Lallee has been staying at least part of the time with Hunton at Bordeaux since they broke up and separated last year. As these pages indicate he has numerous guests for meals and overnight stays at his road ranch on the Chug. Whether Lallee's position there is now that of a cook and domestic servant or whether their closer relationship of former years has been resumed it is of course impossible to say and would be impudent to guess. But knowing Mr. Hunton's stern and uncompromising attitude in matters where he considered a principle to be involved we doubt if things between them could have been as they were before.

However that may have been, the ways were parting for this Virginia gentleman pioneer and his beautiful French-Indian girl companion. Mr. Hunton found a new love in 1881 and Lallee's life after their separation was not entirely devoid of romance. There are stories, founded on dim rumors, of her subsequent attachments, some of them said to have been short lived. But the only definite information we have on Lallee's future love life comes from Mrs. Omie Smith, of Buffalo, Wyoming, daughter of the late pioneer John R. Smith, who wrote in a letter dated October 22, 1956:

"I knew La Lee (Lallee) very well when I was a child, as she worked for our family during the years of 1883-4. She was after-

ward married to Frank Grouard (Guard), the government scout who was stationed at Fort McKinney."

Frank Guard was the half-breed Hawaiian who passed for a Sioux (see page 168, Vol. 2).

MAY, 1878

"Wed, May 1—(Bordeaux). Repaired corral. Working on ditch. Rode on the East bluff with Mr. B. and saw where surveyors of the railroad had camped. Irwin's horse herd camped here on way to Bridgers Ferry.

"Thurs, May 2—(Bordeaux). Working on ditch. Roundup party returned from 'The Hole' and brought over about 2,500 cattle belonging to different parties. Branded two calves. (T. A.) Kent come on Coach. Crawford poisoned himself accidentally at (John) Owens.

"Fri, May 3—(Bordeaux). Sent Author Clark to Fort Laramie with Crawford. Roundup party left. Sent Shorty (Ezelle) to help (Hi) Kelly brand calves. Fixing to go to Fetterman.

"Sat, May 4 — (On Horse Shoe). Started to (Fort) Fetterman. Light wagon. Geo. Drake with me. Nooned on Cottonwood.

"Sun, May 5—(Milk Ranch on La-Prele). Staid on Horse Shoe last night at

J. & W.'s (Johnson & Walker's) old ranch. Overtook Bill Waln with bull wagon on Horse Shoe hill. Nooned on La-Bontee. Got to Milk Ranch 5 P.M. Everything getting along all right.

"Mon, May 6—(Cow Ranch on Box Elder). Staid at Milk Ranch last night. Fryer quite sick this morning. Went to Cow Ranch. Men making wire fence. Everything all right. Have branded 112 calves.

"Tues, May 7—At Cow Ranch all day. Made some fence in afternoon. Rained all night and until 2 P. M. today.

"Wed, May 8—Cow Ranch. (George) Drake went with team to meet Bill Waln and lighten up his load. Sent Mathews to Shop and Post (Fetterman). Made out and sent bids for (Fort) McKinney beef at 7.48 (on the block) and 7.10 (on the hoof). Borrowed pulleys. Got \$100 from (L. P.) Justy. Baptiste (Garnier) got saddle. Making fence.

"Thurs, May 9—Cow Ranch (on Box Elder). Took short ride. Stretched a rope and tried to put a raft across the creek but failed to make it work. Making fence. Charly Wiley shot and killed by Charly Moore near old Milk Ranch. Cold and frosty last night. Nice day."

The reference books at our disposal appear to be silent on that shooting of May 9, 1878 and we find no record of the participants, ex-

cept that Wiley had worked at times for John Hunton.

"Fri, May 10—Cow Ranch. Making fence. Went to Post (Fort Fetterman) horse back. (George) Drake returned with team and loading. (Bill) Waln got to Milk Ranch.

"Sat, May 11—Post. (Ft. Fetterman). Recruits under Lts. Webster & London arrived. Lt. King arrived. Paymaster Wham arrived. (George) Drake come in with team. Charly Stuart and Rounduppers here.

"Sun, May 12—Post. Drake went to Ranch with team. Irwine and other cattle men come to Post. Maj. Wham, Snyder and others went to (Fort) McKinney. (Heck) Reel's train loaded.

"Mon, May 13—Went to Milk Ranch (on LaPrele). Had horses shod for, and give men instructions about roundup. Irwin's men with my wagon on south side of river (North Platte).

"Tues, May 14—Went to Post (Fort Fetterman). Roundup parties started on both sides of River. Dan and (George) Drake come in with light wagon.

"Wed, May 15—Post. (W. E.) Hathaway arrived. Beef bids opened. (N.) Kipp 8.76. No one present to represent him. Started to Rock Creek over the new road and went as far as (George) Harris via gap trail east of LaPrelle.

"Thurs, May 16 — (On New Rock Creek Road). Went from Geo. Harris' up LaPrelle on east side passed the mountains until I struck the Rock Creek road. Followed said road and met party from Laramie City viewing the route. Party of troops from (Fort) Fetterman to haul poles for bridges. Passed through Canon and found it rough but short. Road impracticable for freighting unless much work is done on it. Cold and raining nearly all day.

"Fri, May 17—(Rock Creek). Camped near head of LaBontee. Continued on to Rock Creek. Road very soft but found it to be a good route with the exception of wood and water from the Canon to R. R. a distance of 48 miles. Snowed about 8 inches last night and continued it nearly all day.

"Sat, May 18—(Cheyenne). Staid at Rock Creek last night. Started (Dan) Titus to Chug Ranch (Bordeaux) with team and wagon. Went to Cheyenne by Rail. Capt. Collin's Co. 4th Infantry on cars going to Ft. Laramie. Found Mr. (W. G.) Bullock's half breed boy in Cheyenne, bought him a lot of clothing, paid his hotel bills and got him passage on Coach to ranch. Stoping at Dyers. Snowy, cloudy, rain, wind, cold.



*Bill Bullock (right) and Unknown Cowboy
(Photo Courtesy Agnes Wright Spring)*

Billy Bullock, the half breed son of W. G. Bullock, who was befriended by John Hunton in Cheyenne that spring day of 1878, worked for Mr. Hunton off and on for a number of years. He later became a rider with William F. (Buffalo Bill) Cody's famous wild west show.

The above photograph was given to Historian Agnes Wright Spring by Mrs. John

Hunton. Mrs. Spring subsequently found Bill Bullock's name on an old program of Buffalo Bill's show and also in British press stories published when Mr. Cody toured England with his aggregation of cowboy and Indian performers.

"Sun, May 19 — Cheyenne. Loafing about all day doing nothing—4 P.M. (H.) Haas drove me to (E. W.) Whitcomb's.

"Mon, May 20—Cheyenne. Paid Stebbins & Post and Whipple & Sawyer accts. and then went to Cheyenne depot and met Capt. Gilliss for first time. Preparing to go to Chug (Bordeaux).

"Tues, May 21 — (Bordeaux). Went home on Coach. Met young man named Hart from Warrenton, Va. going on expedition to work for Collins. Passed Maj. Townsend's command at Little Bear. Gen. Merritt's at Bear and Capt. Cain's at Chug. Ranch 10 P. M. Roads very heavy. Met (John) Owens & Portugee (Phillips) going to Cheyenne. Cloudy, cold and rainy all day.

"Wed, May 22—Ranch (Bordeaux). Charly Wild left here for (Fort) Fetterman with my freight. Sent (Jim) Monroe to Bullock place with wire and provisions for Sam (Groves) & Clark. Roads very heavy and muddy. Capt. Cain's company camped here.

"Thurs, May 23—Ranch (Bordeaux).

Gen. Merritt's command camped here. (Dan) Titus arrived. (Jim) Monroe got back. Working on ditch. Lots of troops passing. (Gen.) Merritt, Hart, (Col.) Carlton, Foote, Rogers and G. H. Collins (Post Trader at Fort Laramie) dined here. (John) Owens returned from Cheyenne.

"Fri, May 24 — Ranch (Bordeaux). Col. Carlton & G. H. Collins staid here last night. Went to (John) Owens and took dinner. Dan making P. O. box. Col. Bacon here to dinner. Lallee taken sick and refuses to take medicine.

"Sat, May 25 — Ranch (Bordeaux). Lallee quite sick last night. Gave her castor oil, tinct opium and quinine. Maj. Collier passed with company.

"Sun, May 26 — Ranch (Bordeaux). Lallee improving. F. M. Phillips & wife passed to Cheyenne. Mr. (W. G.) Bullock & son went to Laramie River. McUlvane, Abbott & others here after their mail.

"Mon, May 27—(Cheyenne). Started to Cheyenne on Coach 2 A. M. Saw Johnson on coach. (Hi) Kelly came up from Laramie (river). Arrived in Cheyenne 4 P. M.

"Tues, May 28—(Enroute to Omaha). Ordered bill of grub from (E.) Nagle to be sent to Ranch by Schenck. Bought tick (et) for Omaha for \$24. Started to Omaha on sleeper Colorado.

"Wed, May 29—Arrived in Omaha.

Stoped at Grand Central Hotel. Col. Lane of (Fort) Sanders come down with me. Frank Yates in town. Went to circus, poor affair."

Fort Sanders was a military post on the Laramie River some fifty miles west of Cheyenne near the present site of Laramie City.

"Thurs. May 30 — Omaha. Played cards nearly all day with Col. Lane, Capt. Nickerson, Jim Porter, Megeath & others. Decoration day.

"Fri. May 31 — Omaha. Called on Chiefs Q. M. & C. S. (N.) Kipp gets beef (contract) at Fetterman. Made out bids for contracts."

Mr. Hunton shows receipts of \$3,740.93 for May 1878 and expenditures totaling \$2,299.85. Most of his money came from the First National Bank of Omaha in two payments, one for \$1227 and the other \$2332.33. His expenditures included: Circus \$1, Whipple & Sawyer \$734.80, Stebbins Post & Co. \$410.40, T. Dyer \$7.50, Sleeper & apples \$5.25, Incidentals (!) \$105.00, Shoes for Women \$5, Carriage \$3 and Cards \$5.50.

The "T. Dyer" to whom he paid \$7.50 may have been Tim Dyer, president of the Black Hills Hidden Treasure Mine and Mill. In January 1878 the "treasure" coach from the Hills is said to have carried a single gold nugget or "button" valued at \$7,400 from the Dyer mine. And Dyer's hotel was one of Cheyenne's leading hostelries.

JUNE, 1878

"Sat, June 1 — Omaha. Bids opened. Lowest on (Forts) McKinney and Fetterman hay. Night — am tied on Fetterman at \$35.

"Sun, June 2 — Omaha. Doing nothing. Played cards last night with Yates and others.

"Mon, June 3 — Omaha. Went to see the Smithing Works and drove about the city. Yates & Noble with me.

"Tues, June 4 — Started home today. Yates, Lane & other acquaintances on train.

"Wed, June 5 — Arrived in Cheyenne. Saw Mr. (W. G.) Bullock.

"Thurs, June 6 — (Cheyenne). Paid some bills. Bought bill of provisions of (E.) Nagle and 3 mowers of (H) Hass (Haas). Settled with Hass and give him my notes \$500 sixty days and \$604 six Mo.

"Fri, June 7 — Started home. Noon-ed at Bairds (Bards), supped at (Hi) Kelly's. Got home (Bordeaux) 9½ P. M.

"Sat, June 8 — (Bordeaux). Sent A. Clark to Fort Laramie with provisions for roundup. Working on ditch.

"Sun, June 9 — (Bordeaux). (A.) Clark returned. (Charly) Wild come to Ranch. Ditto Skew Johnson.

"Mon, June 10 — (Bordeaux). Sent (Dan) Titus to Gooddel's roundup to help drive home. Bargained with (Charly) Wild to cut hay at (Fort) Reno. Wild went to Cheyenne.

"Tues, June 11 — (Bordeaux). H. W. roundup at Fort Laramie working up the river. Chester Clark come to Ranch. (Dan) Titus returned with few head cattle, branded 2 calves.

"Thurs, June 13 — (Bordeaux). Sam & Tom went to Laramie River to Bullock place to tear open gap in Fleet (?) fence.

"Sat, June 15 — (Bordeaux). Sent Frank Browning to (Fort) Fetterman with anvil & vice. Fixing dam. Charly Brown here.

"Mon, June 17 — (Bordeaux). Hauling wood. Went to Goshens Hole. Brown & Yates passed going to Fort Custer. (Charly) Wild arrived with freight.

"Tues, June 18 — (Bordeaux). Fixing to start to (Forts) Fetterman & McKinney. Smalley and others arrived with freight for Fetterman."

In her book, "Cheyenne and Black Hills Stage Routes" Agnes Wright Spring records that Freighter Benjamin Smalley's barn at Cheyenne caved in during the great spring blizzard of 1878 (see March 8 to 15 entries) and smothered five of his mules. Whereupon Mr. Smalley moved his kitchen furniture into

his living room and stabled ten remaining mules in the kitchen until after the storm.

That blizzard is rated as one of the worst ever. Guests at Cheyenne's Inter-Ocean hotel walked out of second story windows on to the drifts. Roofs of stores and houses gave way under the weight of snow and many families, marooned without food, had to be dug from their wrecked homes.

One drift five miles south of Cheyenne was said to be a mile wide and 18 feet deep. Freighters caught on the trail had it tough. Some of them froze to death and hundreds of their horses, mules and oxen perished.

The late Hon. Francis E. Warren who was to become governor of Wyoming and who held the number one spot of seniority in the United States Senate at the time of his death, was caught in Deadwood by that blizzard. He tried to get out by sled, by horseback and finally made it on foot to Jenny Stockade, continuing his journey to Cheyenne on the first coach south after the storm.

"Wed, June 19 — (Bordeaux). Sam Groves, Charly Wild and others started for Fort McKinney as haying party, teams loaded with grub & grain. Roundup here and cut up "Cavy". Alcide Bonisse passed with freight for me.

"Thurs, June 20—Started to (Fort) Fetterman. William B. (Bullock, Jr.) with me. Overtook (Sam) Groves and party on Cottonwood.

"Fri, June 21 — (Milk Ranch on La-Prele). Staid on Cottonwood last night. Nooned on LaBontee. Got to Milk Ranch 7 P.M. (Bill) Waln making racks. Other work getting along all right but little slow. Reel's freight outfit arrived from Med. (Medicine) Bow.

"Sat, June 22 — (Fort Fetterman). Went to Post in the afternoon. Saw Joe Taylor, Powell and others. Tillotson bought Taylor's herd a few days ago. Telegraphed Mr. (W. G.) Bullock to try to borrow \$2,000 for 60 or 90 days.

"Sun, June 23 — (Milk Ranch). At Post last night. Went to Ranch. A. B. Clark in with work cattle brought from Chug and reports a heavy hail storm on Bed Tick. Teams will not roll. Sold (W. E.) Hathaway (mowing) machine & rake and Govt. horse for \$195. Quite a shower of rain.

"Mon, June 24 — (Box Elder Ranch). (Charly) Wild's & my teams arrived. Went to Box Elder, took two teams to bring machines & rakes. Everything all right.

"Tues. June 25 — Went to Milk Ranch. Fixing machines & rakes. Smalley and other teams unloaded and started back to Cheyenne.

"Wed, June 26 — (Milk Ranch on LaPrele). Prepared everything to start to (Fort) McKinney with hay cutting out-

fit. Roundup party passed to Lone Tree. P. & Mc's. (Powell & McMillan's) train in from (Medicine) Bow.

"Thurs, June 27 — (Camp on Sage Creek). Started hay cutting outfit to (Fort) McKinney, Sam Groves in charge. Went north of Fetterman to look for hay. Baptiste (Little Bat Garnier) with me.

"Fri, June 28 — (Milk Ranch on La-Prele). Staid with McKinney hay cutting party on Sage Creek and put them across the Platte. Heard (Fort) McKinney hay contract to be re-let & Post removed to Clear Creek. Working on racks & wagons. Quite a hail storm.

"Sat, June 29 — (Milk Ranch). Repairing machines to cut hay on Fetterman contract. Letter from Chief Q.M. saying he would recommend all of contract be awarded to me. (George) Powell returned 15 ox bows. Instructed Tom Mathews what to do. (Charly) Clay's train arrived.

"Sun, June 30 — (Fort Fetterman). Baptiste (Little Bat Garnier) come to Ranch with team, machine & rake from Box Elder. Went to Post. First mail over rock Creek route arrived by Gov. Thayer. (Bill) Waln went to Box Elder to get work cattle. Done work at Shops for (Charly) Clay."

Mr. Hunton took in \$480.25 during June 1878, according to his "Cash Account"

and spent nearly four times that much, \$1,677.48. His receipts include \$400 from Stebbins Post & Co., \$29 from "Wheel Wright Shop" and other small items. Among his expenditures were: Self (from Bank) \$843.00, Stephens & W. \$97, Gowns \$5.25, Boots for Tom \$8.00, Hotel bills \$18, Sleeper \$4, Gallatin & Co. \$61, Chairs bedstead etc. \$37, Ammunition \$7.50, Pistol \$16, Chas. Wild \$205.25, Whip \$3.50, and Ferrying \$6.50.

And here is the property John Hunton turned in for taxation:

"Fort Fetterman, June 25, 1878. Tax list given in Albany Co. 665 head Cattle \$14, \$9,310; 14 Horses \$30, \$420; 2 Mules \$75, \$150; 11 Wagons \$50, \$550; Farming Utensils \$200."

JULY, 1878

"Mon, July 1 — (Camp on North Side of Platte). Started Baptiste (Little Bat Garnier) & Clark to cut hay for Contract, on LaParelle. Give all necessary instructions and went to Post (Fetterman) to start to (Fort) McKinney. Recd \$273 of Commissary for June beef. Crossed the river (Platte) on way to McKinney. (Charly) Clay's train crossed river."

"Tues, July 2 — (Antelope Springs). Staid on north side of Platte. Nooned at

Brown Springs. Got to Antelope Springs at sunset.

"Wed, July 3 — (Fort McKinney). Staid at Antelope Springs last night. Nooned at Dry Fork. Met Athrops outfit. Passed McMillan. Got to McKinney 4 P.M. Outfit left on 2nd.

"Thurs, July 4 — (Hay Camp on Crazy Woman Creek). Staid at McKinney last night. Officers left on leave. Nooned on Crazy Woman. Met Snyder & Smith near Post. Saw Hathaway at 9 Mile Mudhole. Got to camp on Crazy Woman 5 P.M. Commenced cutting hay near Crazy Woman."

Crazy Woman Creek in what is now the central part of Johnson County, Wyoming, attracted some of the gold rush prospectors from the Black Hills in 1878 and it was at the T. A. Ranch on Crazy Woman in 1892 that the embattled settlers of Johnson county met and stopped the invading cattle barons and hired gunmen from Cheyenne, thereby ending that fantastic "Johnson County War" — the rights and wrongs of which are still subjects for hot debate among some of the old timers.

"Fri, July 5 — (Cavalry Camp on Clear Fork). (Charly) Wild and myself started to Cavalry camp on Clear Fork and to look for hay. Found but poor prospect for hay which induces me to be rather glad that Post is to be moved. (See June 28 entry). Nooned on small creek

near mountains south of Clear Fork. Got to Cavalry Camp 5 P. M. I stoped with Sutler Mr. Wiedman. Found no hay. Quite a rain storm 2 P.M.

"Sat, July 6 — Went to Camp on Crazy Woman. Men cutting hay. Found some hay on little creek east of road. Rained and hailed A. M.

"Sun, July 7 — (Camp on Clear Creek). Sent (L. P.) Justy to (Fort) McKinney with bids on hay. Bids: 300 tons \$17.50, 400 tons \$19.50, 500 tons \$22.00. Took Sam (Groves) and started to Piney and Pine Creek to look for hay. Stoped on Clear Creek. Borrowed 2 saddles from Capt. (blank space, no name). 5th Cav. out, will move tomorrow .

"Mon, July 8 — (Camp on Piney). Found great deal of hay within five to six miles of Lake DeSchmidt (DeSmet). If I had seen it before would have bid \$17.50 for whole contract. Went into camp for day on Piney below Lake. Found man named Foster cutting hay there. Sam (Groves) caught lot nice fish."

The "man named Foster" John Hunton found cutting hay along Piney Creek may have been Thomas J. Foster who settled at the site of old Fort Phil Kearney in 1878. The book "Progressive Men of Wyoming" (1903) lists Mr. and Mrs. Foster as "the first actual

permanent settlers in Johnson County." Their nearest neighbors were 70 miles away on Powder River. Mr. Foster fought with the South in the Civil War and was among the last of the Confederates to surrender with General Kirby Smith. He served four years as register of the U. S. Land Office at Buffalo, sold his ranch in 1901 and moved to Sheridan.

"Tues, July 9 — (Camp on Prairie Dog). Went down Piney. Found some hay. Went to Prairie Dog, found great deal of hay.

"Wed, July 10 — Staid on Prairie Dog last night, returned as far as Phil Kearney.

"Thurs, July 11 — (Buffalo Wallow). Returned by Cavalry Camp and Curly Jim's Camp. Hay party working at Buffalo Wallow.

"Fri, July 12 — (Fort McKinney). Staid at hay camp last night. Went to Post.

"Sat, July 13 — (Fort McKinney). At Post all day trying to sell hay and machines to Snyder. Alcide (Bonisse) arrived with part of freight and went back after trail wagon.

"Sun, July 14 — (Fort McKinney). At Post doing nothing. Gen. Merritt arrived. Thermometer 112 in shade, 124 in sun. Hay cutting out (fit) went east on Lake De Schmidt (DeSmet).

"Mon, July 15 — (Fort McKinney). At McKinney waiting to find out who gets hay contract. Capt. Pollock and command left for Clear Fork. Post Trader sending goods.

"Tues, July 16 — At (Fort) McKinney. Bargained with Snyder to sell him my hay cutting outfit, grub etc. Went to Crazy Woman (Creek).

"Wed, July 17 — Went to hay camp (east of Lake DeSmet) and found about 100 tons cut. Took invoice of all property.

"Thurs, July 18 — Settled with men and went with (Charly) Wild to Capt. Pollock's camp on Clear Fork to see Snyder. Turned things over to Wild conditioned that Snyder bought me out.

"Fri, July 19 — St(aid) at Capt. Pollock's last night. Closed up with Snyder and started to (Fort) Fetterman. Sam Groves, A. B. Clark, Frank Browning, Billy Bullock & L. P. Justy with me. Taking one machine and one rake back with me.

"Sat, July 20 — Staid on Crazy Woman Fork last night. Got to Powder River 12 M. Turned over remainder of provisions to Snyder. Heard Ed. Hewitt was killed.

"Sun, July 21 — Staid on Powder River last night. Roads very muddy and Dry Fork very high. Had to leave road

in many places and take the bluff. Very heavy rains about the Pumpkin Buttes yesterday.

"Mon, July 22 — Staid on Dry Fork last night. Started early. Met mail wagon, got some mail. (L. P.) Justy returned to (Fort) McKinney to Summon Witnesses. Took (Sam) Groves with me. Nooned at Antelope (Springs) and went on to Brown Springs. Gen. Merritt & family camped here.

"Tues, July 23 — Got to (Fort) Fetterman about noon. I rain unloading hay. Have got in 127 tons here. Went to Shops. Material sent to Hass (Haas) for nearly month ago has not arrived.

"Wed, July 24 — Went to Post (Fetterman) and telegraphed for iron and hard wood. Putting brakes on some hay racks. Team from McKinney (brought) (Frank) Browning, (A. B.) Clark, Billy (Bullock).

"Thurs, July 25 — (Hay Camp on Deer Creek). At Ranch Shops last night. Told Murray would have to let him out (Maj. or Capt.) Coats would not let him stay on (Fort Fetterman) Reservation. Went to Box Elder, found everything all right. Went to Deer Creek, Found Woolcot cutting hay on hay reservation. Making hay at mouth of Creek. Think there will be 200 tons on this Creek.

"Fri, July 26 — Hay camp last night. Went back, met bull outfit. Cary's (Carey's) herd arrived. At Post (Fetterman). (L. P.) Justy returned."

As indicated in a number of previous entries, John Hunton had gradually moved his "SO" beef herd from Bordeaux to his Ranch on Box Elder Creek near Fort Fetterman, his principal market. This location later became the celebrated Careyhurst Ranch, established by Joseph M. Carey and brothers, who also acquired Hunton's "SO" brand. The arrival of "Cary's herd" along the Box Elder on that July day more than three quarters of a century ago may have been the start of it all. In addition to establishing one of the best known ranches and cattle herds in the west Joseph M. Carey carved a remarkable political career for himself in this new land. After serving as Territorial U. S. Attorney he was appointed a justice of the Territorial Supreme Court by President Grant in 1871. Judge Carey served three terms as mayor of Cheyenne where he owned and developed considerable downtown business property. In 1884 he was elected territorial delegate to the 49th Congress and twice returned to that office. He is credited with introducing the legislation which made Wyoming a state. And the new state sent him back to Washington as Wyoming's first United States senator in 1890. In 1911 he was elected governor. His sons, Robert and Charles, followed in their father's polit-

ical footsteps. Robert's career leading to the governorship in 1919 and later to the United States Senate. Thus did the Carey's become and remain one of Wyoming's most illustrious families for two generations.

"Sat, July 27 — At Shop. Started the team and extra mares below. Went to Post (Fetterman). Sam Groves went to Box Elder.

"Mon, July 29 — Started to Bordeaux. Worked (L. P.) Justy's horses. Nooned on LaBontee. Went to Cottonwood. Witnessed total eclipse of the Sun from divide between LaBontee and Horse Shoe. Nice day."

That total eclipse of the sun July 29, 1878, is said to have created a lot of interest throughout the Territory of Wyoming. Considerably more interest, at any rate, than did the party of early scientists who came from the east to make observations of the event from atop the continental divide in south central Wyoming Territory. And apparently only the slightest ripple of interest was aroused by a certain unobtrusive little chap who was a member of that expedition — Thomas A. Edison by name. The story goes that on this trip young Edison, while fishing on the shore of Battle Lake, near the present town of Encampment, fell to contemplating a few bamboo threads he had pulled off his fishing pole and that they gave him an idea which kicked around in his remarkable brain until it led

eventually to the development of a filament which enabled him to make the first incandescent electric lamp. Odd how important little things sometimes turn out to be. All the excitement about that long forgotten eclipse — just a flash in the pan of passing events. But the young fellow idly fishing and THINKING beside a Wyoming mountain lake had a flash in his head which literally turned night into day for all the civilized world.

"Tues, July 30 — (Bordeaux). Got to Ranch 12 M. Making hay, slowly.

"Wed, July 31 — (Bordeaux). Cutting and stacking hay. (Hi) Kelly and others gathering and driving beef."

At least on the face of things Mr. Hunton got ahead some financially during July 1878. He shows receipts of \$2,490.45 and records expenditures of only \$2,089.23. But \$2,000 of those receipts came from Stebbins Post & Co. and were probably a loan (see June 22 entry). His beef contract brought in \$273.40, two county warrants a total of \$45.55, his blacksmith shop \$124 and wagon shop \$11.

Hunton's expenditures were many and varied, including payments to Freighter Alcide Bonisse of more than \$100, E. U. Snyder \$371.25, Charly Hay \$25.08, Robt. Fryer \$330, Scott Murray (who was persona non grata at Ft. Fetterman) \$337, a number of small items which were presumably advances to his employees — and "John Owens to Curly Jim" \$150.

AUGUST, 1878

"Thurs, Aug 1 — (Bordeaux). Cutting and stacking hay. (Jim) Monroe and (F. M.) Phillip's outfit come to Ranch. Wheel for (mowing) machine come.

"Fri, Aug 2 — (Bordeaux). Put wheel in machine. Cutting and stacking hay. Wm. Bacon got leg broke here. Sent him to Fort Laramie in light wagon by (Jim) Monroe.

"Sat, Aug 3 — (Bordeaux). Cutting and stacking hay. New mower broke. Wrote to sister enclosing \$20.

"Sun, Aug 4 — (Bordeaux). Repairing mowers. Mr. (W. G.) Bullock returned with Maj. Waln. Heavy rain.

"Mon, Aug 5 — (Bordeaux). Cutting and stacking hay. New mower give out again. Repaired it. Heavy rain about night.

"Tues, Aug 6 — (Bordeaux). Repaired mowers, fence and policing A. M. P. M. Cutting and cocking hay. Went to Fort Laramie on Coach.

"Wed, Aug 7 — At Fort Laramie. Hay on Murrin's contract coming in fast. Collins hasn't put in any."

A man named Lake Murrin, pioneer saloon keeper of Cheyenne, helped organize one of the earliest non-military gold seeking expeditions to the Black Hills in 1870. Some 2,000

men from all over the nation signed up to go. But the whole thing was so openly and obviously in violation of our treaties with the Indians that President Grant put his foot down and it fizzled out. But Murrin continued to promote "The Hills" and their treasure for the white men and in 1878 was one of a committee of Cheyenne business men appointed to try and get a railroad built from Cheyenne into the Black Hills. It really doesn't sound probable that he was the same Murrin who was interested in that hay contract at Fort Laramie, but you can never tell. Those old boys got around, had their fingers in a lot of pies.

"Thurs, Aug 8 — At Fort Laramie. No news. Went home on Coach. Found Big Bat (Pourier) and family at Ranch.

"Fri, Aug 9 — (Bordeaux). (Big) Bat went home. Tom started to Fetterman. Lallee went to Laramie River, light wagon. Making hay.

"Sat, Aug 10 — (Bordeaux). Making hay. L. returned, Phillips' squaw with her.

"Sun, Aug 11 — (Bordeaux). Mr. (W. G.) Bullock and Clark went to Cheyenne in light wagon. (F. M.) Phillips returned from Chicago. Branded 4 calves. Colin Hunter & others here fixing sycles (sickles).

"Mon, Aug 12 — (Bordeaux). Making hay. Joe Kelly here. (F. M.) Phillips' men quit him. Winterling and Berry

going to Cheyenne. Kelly's family and Hand here.

"Tues, Aug 13 — (Bordeaux). (Hi) Kelly brought in some beef, his men going on north side of Laramie to round up. Making hay. Big hail in Cheyenne.

"Wed, Aug 14 — (Bordeaux). Making hay. Clark returned from Cheyenne. Dentist Barnes here. Col. Bacon here and had tooth pulled. I had two teeth filled.

"Thurs, Aug 15 — (Bordeaux). Stacking hay, not cutting. Lent Dr. Barnes the Silvertailed Mare, saddle & bridle to go to Cheyenne. Colin Hunter here, fixed his cycles.

"Fri, Aug 16 — (Bordeaux). Making hay running two machines and stacking. Man from (Fort) McKinney says Smith's is lowest bid on hay, being 6.95 and 6.50.

"Sat, Aug 17 — (Bordeaux). Making hay, 2 machines 1/2 the day. 1 Bale (?) day. Dan complaining. Telegram and letter from Tom Hunton. Telegram from Murphy saying 221 tons hay in voucher given 13th. Give Stebbins Post & Co. order on Chief Q. M. for \$6,536.70. Steve George passed. Winterling & Jim Berry ditto."

A man named Jim Berry was suspected of being one of the gang which tried to hold up a stage coach near Deadwood the night of March 25, 1877, and killed the driver,

Johnny Slaughter, putting 14 buckshot through his heart. The same Berry was also one of the outlaws who held up the U. P. train at Big Springs, Nebraska (see page 253, Vol. 2).

"Sun, Aug 18 — (Bordeaux). Doing nothing today. Sent Dan to Laramie (river) to look after hay on (W. G.) Bullock place. Lallee & Tar-She-nah-ze with him. Quite a rain 5 P. M.

"Mon, Aug 19 — (Bordeaux). Making hay. Dan & Lallee returned, latter very sick.

"Tues, Aug 20 — (Bordeaux). Hauling and stacking hay. Crawford comcd work. Lallee very sick. Dr. Joseph attending her at 10 P. M.

"Wed, Aug 21 — (Bordeaux). Hauling and stacking hay for Stage Co. Went to McUlvane's for Dr. for Squaw. Bought 28 lbs. butter. E. Nagle come to Ranch on Coach.

"Thurs, Aug 22 — (Bordeaux). Stacking hay. Lallee quite sick but easier. Dr. J. (Joseph) here. Wulfjen here for Nagle.

"Fri, Aug 23 — (Bordeaux). Stacking hay. Finished stack for Stage Co. Dr. Jo. left on coach this morning. Bronson's (or Branson's) herd passed to Warren and Gutterman. Bargained with Bronson to turn out 20 bull calves to be taken next year at 25\$ each, and to sell

him 15 bulls this season at \$33.33. Sold Will Clay 3 bulls for \$100. Telegraphed Tom Hunton to come home."

The first stages of the above cattle drive, or one very similar to it which involved Mr. Bronson and Warren and Gitterman (Gettermann), is also a matter of record in Virginia Cole Trenholm's book, "Footprints on the Frontier." In Jim Shaw's story of his adventures bringing cattle up the Texas Trail, he recalls that in one drive in 1878 all the big steers of the Shirl and Allison herds were sold at Ogalalla, Nebraska to Bronson, a former army captain, for delivery at the Bosler pens on Running Water, and that there were also a thousand head of yearling steers for delivery to F. E. Warren and Gettermann at the Bar Circle Ranch on the Warbonnet in South Dakota. This tale of running adventure in Mr. Shaw's own words backs any "western" you ever read into the shade for action and loses none of its excitement in the telling.

There were two Bronsons (or Bransons) in the area at about this time — "E. B." and "Tom" — apparently men of quite different backgrounds and experience. Mrs. C. C. Morton of Oakland, California, thinks Mr. Hunton was referring to Tom Branson in the above entry. The following is quoted from Mrs. Morton's letter of July 15, 1956:

"Edgar Beecher Bronson was not an army captain. He was a newspaper reporter who came out to Cheyenne to recuperate

from a nervous breakdown suffered from over work at the Henry Ward Beecher trial. He had a letter of introduction to N. R. Davis, proprietor of the 'Lazy D' outfit, 12 miles south of Cheyenne. (From John Charles Thompson's column 'In Old Wyoming')."

Note: In 1874 Rev. Henry Ward Beecher, world famous preacher, lecturer and writer, was charged by a former associate, Theodore Tilton, of improper relations with Mrs. Tilton. Mr. Tilton also sued him for \$100,000. The Plymouth Church of Brooklyn, N. Y., where Rev. Beecher was pastor during most of his ministry, exonerated him; but the civil suit dragged on for six months, creating quite a sensation, and ended with a hung jury which, after a week's confinement and deliberation, finally voted nine to three in favor of the defendant.

Mrs. Morton's letter continues:

"There was a Tom Branson who drove cattle up from Texas. Lee Moore worked for him in 1878. Dave Knight was Branson's foreman. They camped at what is now the fair grounds near Douglas (Wyoming). Then Branson bought the Red Bluff ranch at the mouth of Elkhorn. It was there the 'Battle of the Cook Stove' took place with Billy Irvine, 'a little man with a big gun', who claimed the Red Bluff ranch. Irvine drove Branson's outfit off. This Branson may have been an army cap-

tain — but there were a lot of pseudo titles in those days."

"Sat, Aug 24 — (Bordeaux). *Stacking hay. Lallee improving.*

"Sun, Aug 25 — (Bordeaux). *Doing nothing. (E.) Nagle returned home from SaBille (Sybille). Dan (Titus) hunting, killed one antelope, (Frank) Browning with him. (Hi) Kelly & family here.*

"Mon, Aug 26 — (Bordeaux). *Cutting hay and stacking in corral for use of stable. Am unwell, nervous brain.*

"Tues, Aug 27 — (Bordeaux). *Cutting and stacking hay. Tom Hoofman here last night and went to Phillips today. 'Hand' come to Ranch. Unwell all day.*

"Wed, Aug 28 — (Bordeaux). *Cutting and stacking hay. Roundup got here and branded out calves. Only brought 11 of my cattle. Phillips & others with it. Killed beef. Quite unwell.*

"Fri, Aug 30 — (Bordeaux). *Stacking hay. Bat and William Bullock went to Bullock place to cut hay. Dan shoeing horses. Think I am getting Mountain fever.*

"Sat, Aug 31 — (Bordeaux). *Stacking hay. Dan shoeing horses. Am still unwell with nervous head. Brains seem to be dull & stupid. Dentist filled Tom's teeth and prepared one of mine."*

August 1878 was not a money month

for John Hunton. All he took in of record was \$103.50 from his bar at Bordeaux, plus one lone dollar received from a "Stranger for Bacon." He spent \$289.65. \$20 went to 'S.F.H. in letter', undoubtedly his sister (see August 3 entry). Other payments included: Frank Browning \$10, A. B. Clark \$10. Tom Hunton \$60, blankets & express \$51.75, butter (those 28 pounds he bought August 21) \$8.40 and Dentist \$23. He paid Dr. Joseph \$50 for attending Lallee and gave her \$4.50. One cannot help but wonder if this big let down in his business activities and income, coupled with loss of that McKinney hay contract and, perhaps concern over Lallee's apparently precarious health, did not have something to do with Hunton's own "nervous head".

SEPTEMBER, 1878

"Sun, Sept 1 — (Bordeaux). All hands laying off. Fried chicken for dinner. Bronson passed south & Harny north. Felt about well today.

"Mon, Sept 2 — (Bullock Place). Cutting hay. Finished stack in corral. Went to Laramie River to Bullock place horseback.

"Tues, Sept 3—Returned to Bordeaux. George Drake and Jim Berry went to Phillips' roundup. Colin Hunter here, give him chk for \$100.

"Wed, Sept 4 — (Bordeaux). Cutting hay part of day but had to quit on

account of rain. Notified by Stebbins & Post that voucher had been paid. Paid Nagle \$800. Jim Lane here last night, sold (Hi) Kelly his horses.

"Thurs, Sept 5 — (Bordeaux). Setting posts around hay stacks. Bought four of the Jim Lane ponies from Joe Alford for \$150. Lane & Wulfjen passed. Bargained with Lane for 21 head horses provided they are not sold. Tom Swan herd passed."

Tom Swan (known as Black Tom) and his brothers A. H. and Henry established the Swan Brothers cattle company in 1873, ranging far and wide along the Laramie and Sybille. The various Swan outfits are an integral part of Wyoming cow country history.

"Fri, Sept 6 — (Bordeaux). Set men to work policing etc. Tom Hunton went to Wulfjens. Started to (Fort) Fetterman. Nooned at Gordon's. Met Graham's beef herd. Got to Horse Shoe 5 o'clock."

Early in the spring of 1878 a young man from Ireland, but of Scotch ancestry, and with quite a flair for poetry, came out of Colorado looking for a new home in Wyoming. His name was Johnny Gordon. On a previous visit he had stayed with John Hunton at Bordeaux, took a fancy to the country between the North and South Laramie Rivers and decided to settle there, near Uva.

The night Johnny arrived in this area

with his team and a hired man named George Harden, they made camp under their wagon when a storm hit. By morning they were wrapped in that terrific March blizzard of 1878, their wagon buried in snow. The two men managed to reach Billy Bacon's roadside tavern only a few hundred yards away, helped chink up the spaces between its logs to keep out the wind-driven snow, and holed up with Mr. and Mrs. Bacon for the duration.

After the storm they went to the Tobe Miller ranch on Cottonwood, cut and hauled enough cottonwood logs from that area to build a cabin which they roofed with earth. The following May Gordon brought his small herd of cattle and family to the new home at Uva.

Later on he found the drinking, gambling and general hell-raising that went on at the Bacon place distasteful so close to his home and paid Billy Bacon \$1,000 to leave — after which he included Bacon's place in his homestead. Mr. Bacon, as previously recounted herein, moved to Ft. Fetterman where eventually he and Jack Saunders, or Sanders, neatly eliminated each other from the passing parade. (See page 216, Vol. 2).

Johnny Gordon also built and operated a road ranch and became a one-man chamber of commerce for irrigation. Among his patrons was the late Hon. Joseph M. Carey, and Gordon "sold" his influential guest on the possibilities for irrigating the area. The Wheat-

land irrigation project eventually resulted and Carey in later years heralded Johnny Gordon as the father of that development.

Gordon's career in Wyoming was long and varied. He helped the U.S.D.A. start the experimental farm at Cheyenne, which he managed for some ten years, after which he moved to Worland, Wyoming.

Virginia Cole Trenholm lets Johnny Gordon tell his own story of these and other experiences in her "Footprints on the Frontier". Since Uva lies approximately midway on the old road between Bordeaux and Horseshoe, there seems no reason to doubt that John Hutton "nooned" with Johnny Gordon on September 6, 1878.

"Sat, Sept 7 — (Shops at Milk Ranch). Met Brown, Yates & Clay. Got to Shops 1 P.M. (Charly) Clay's train here repairing. Everything all right.

"Sun, Sept 8 — (Fort Fetterman). A.M. at Ranch. Paid (Scott) Murray \$530 and took his receipt. He says his wife has the note I give him but will leave it with Tillotson to give me. P.M. went to Post. No news. Train near here loaded with hay. Rained nearly all night.

"Mon, Sept 9 — (Box Elder Ranch). At Shops. Train cannot unload as it is wet and rainy. P.M. went to Box Elder. Everything all right there.

"Tues, Sept 10 — At Box Elder Ranch all day. Hay train unloaded.

"Wed, Sept 11 — (Fort Fetterman). Went to Shops and Post. Train pulled out. Maj. Hart, Capt. Woodson & Lt. Webster passed to Railroad. Capt. Coats promised to saw lumber for 1/3.

"Fri, Sept 13 — (Box Elder Ranch). Went to Box Elder via Fort (Fetterman). Got mail. Roundup at B. E. Ranch. Branded 19 calves. Commenced wattling calves on nose.

"Sat, Sept 14 — (Box Elder Ranch). Rounded up west side of B. E. (Box Elder). Branded 21 calves today. Branded 26 bull calves in all for Bronson.

"Sun, Sept 15 — (Fort Fetterman). Went to Shop & Post with E. Smith and J. Lind. Mail one day late, arrived 4 P.M. today.

"Mon, Sept 16 — Shops. Settled with Chester Clark, owe him 300\$. Went to Post (Fetterman) give E. Tillotson draft on E. U. Snyder & Co. for \$1200. Hay train in sight.

"Tues, Sept 17 — Shops. Train in. Weighed and comcd unloading, light loads. Went to 6 Mile Ranch. Paid (L. P.) Justy 605\$ and took up the note I owed him of 500\$ with interest.

"Wed, Sept 18 — (Fort Fetterman). Went to Post for mail. Letter and telegram from Gov. Thayer in regard to freight. Ansd. both stating would try to load 75000 lbs. about October 5th. Train

fin. unloading, got grub and started on last trip for hay. Will get hay of (George) Via.

"Thurs, Sept 19 — At Shops repairing Wagons. George Via here.

"Fri, Sept 20 — Shops. Work on wagons. (L. P.) Justy come with lumber got of Powell. Author, Coffee and Mr. Peach here tonight.

"Sat, Sept 21 — Shops. Work on wagon beds. Justy started to Chug with mules and wagon for vegetables. Paid Smith & Lord what I owed them, \$47.05. Clay's train here tonight enroute for (Fort) McKinney.

"Sun, Sept 22 — (Enroute to Bordeaux). Tom Mathews come to Shops with light wagon. Went to Post (Fetterman). Got mail. Had horse shod and started to Chug after giving all necessary instructions to Fryer.

"Mon, Sept 23 — (Bordeaux). Staid on Horseshoe last night. Nooned on Cottonwood. Got home at 7 o'clock having driven 65 miles today. Mr. (W. G.) Bullock at Ranch. Baptiste (Garnier) done cutting hay on Laramie River and gone to Cheyenne. Lallee with him. Dan & Mike stacking hay on Laramie. Clark and Browning stacking here.

"Tues, Sept 24 — (Bordeaux). At Ranch. Stacking hay and digging potatoes etc.

"Wed. Sept 25 — (Bordeaux). At Ranch. Killed some ducks. Colin Hunter here. Fred Schwartz passed. Stacking hay etc."

Fred Schwartz was proprietor of a well-known road ranch and stage station on Lodgepole Creek, some 18 miles north of Cheyenne. His daughter, Minna Schwartz, was a chorus girl in the original company of that famous light opera, "The Prince of Pilsen" — and is said to have been the prettiest one, too. She later became the bride of Franklin P. Adams, newspaper columnist and early radio commentator. Agnes Wright Spring in her "Cheyenne and Black Hills Stage Routes" prints a tragic tale Minna used to tell of how drunken cowboys shot up the Schwartz hostelry one day when she was three years old. Her father was away with a hay crew and Mrs. Schwartz, heavily pregnant, fled with her little girl from the drink crazed men when one of them came into her living quarters demanding "women", and hid in the willows along Pole Creek. That night her child was born dead.

Russell Thorp, of Cheyenne, knew the Swartz family and Minna quite well. (He says "Swartz" is the correct spelling, while Hunton generally wrote it "Schwartz"). The Schwartz road ranch was a stage station on his father's line to the Black Hills. Mr. Thorp gives the following additional details on Minna's career and romance:

After the railroads . . . concluded the operations of the Black Hills stage line . . . Fred Swartz moved to the new town of Lusk, Wyoming, where he ran a butcher shop . . . and Minna developed into an unusual girl. She was active in church affairs and became manager of the Northwestern Hotel in Lusk before she was twenty. But Minna thought she had talent as a singer — so she saved her money and went to Boston to study, but failed to make the grade in music. Instead, being strikingly handsome, she became a chorus girl in "The Prince of Pilsen", famous light opera of the day.

On my way back from a trip to South America I stopped in Chicago, went to see "The Prince of Pilsen" and when six girls came on stage representing six nations I could hardly believe my eyes—Minna was one of them. I took her to lunch next day and she told me a theatrical critic named Franklin P. Adams was in love with her, but that their romance needed help because chorus girls of that day did not rate very high in the social scale. She introduced me to Mr. Adams and the following day I invited him to lunch, during the course of which I think I raised her stock about 200 percent — because she was really a very fine person.

The next I heard they were married and Adams forged ahead to become a famous

columnist. Later I had a nice visit with them in New York and she made several visits to old friends and relatives in Wyoming. But finally I got a letter from Minna saying she was in Paris getting a divorce. I wrote her, "It is a long trail from Pole Creek to Paris". After that she made her home in Washington, D. C., where she died during the mid 1950's.

"Thurs, Sept 26 — (Bordeaux). At Ranch, stacking hay, digging potatoes. Roundup here tonight. Emmons, Player, etc. here.

"Fri, Sept 27 — (Bordeaux). Ranch. Hay, potatoes, Roundup. Parties branding calves. Coach robbed last night and one man killed, two wounded."

That holdup and cold blooded killing is known in history as the Cold Springs stage robbery — the last big "treasure coach" bandit-haul on the Cheyenne-Black Hills road. According to Luke Voorhees, operator of the line, it happened something like this:

The treasure coach, on which no passengers were allowed to ride, left Deadwood for Cheyenne with \$37,000 in gold dust and bars, \$3,700 in currency and some jewelry. The guards were Scott Davis, in charge, Gale Hill, Smith and Donald Campbell.

About three o'clock on the afternoon of September 26th the driver, H. E. Barnett, pulled up for a change of teams at a lonely log stable known as the Canyon Springs or Whis-

ky Gap station near the present Wyoming-Dakota line about 35 miles south of Deadwood. It was broad daylight. No danger was in sight — but the stableman, William Miner, was not outside to meet them with a fresh six-horse team for the scheduled seven-minute change, as he should have been. Instead, he lay bound and gagged in a corner of the stable while five or six hard-eyed men lined the wall with their guns on the approaching stage through cracks between the logs from which the chinking had been removed.

Guard Hill, riding with the driver, jumped down to see why Miner was not out and ready with the new team. When he hit ground the bandits opened fire. Hill fell badly wounded. Campbell was killed outright and a third bullet grazed Smith's head apparently knocking him cuckoo — for hours afterwards he kept yelling that he was killed.

Chief Guard Davis left the coach from the side away from the barn, took his stand behind a large pine tree and opened fire as the bandits came from the stable, wounding one or more and forcing the gang to take shelter behind the steel lined coach.

They called on him to surrender. He told them to go to hell. Then the leader of the mob, forcing terrified Driver Barnett ahead of him as a shield, started advancing on Davis — but he stopped about ten feet away when Davis said he would put a slug through both of them at the next step. After some par-

leying they finally agreed to let Davis go his way if he would leave them with the coach.

The safe holding the rich cargo was guaranteed. The makers said it could not be opened with hand tools in less than twenty four hours. So Davis backed off among the trees, keeping the bandits covered to protect himself from a bullet in the back until out of their sight — then hurried on foot for help to Beaver, the next station, some ten miles south. He made it in two hours.

With Davis gone, the outlaws made Barnett drive his stage off the road into the timber, lashed him to a wheel and then proceeded to open the safe with a sledge hammer and cold chisels in less than an hour — they apparently had not heard about that guarantee. The loot was divided and off they took through the wilderness in all directions.

The whole territory was aroused. Organized man hunts spread out, reaching into neighboring states and territories. The stage company offered \$2,500 reward. There were captures, bribes, escapes, confessions and denials. Several suspects were lynched without ceremony. Others stood trial and were convicted on various counts. More than half of the loot was eventually recovered.

But positive identification of all the men who stood behind that log stable wall and killed without even a rattlesnake's warning has never been established to our knowledge. How-

ever, the resulting commotion did tend to discourage that sort of thing.

"Sat, Sept 28 — (Bordeaux). Round-up on Richard & Chug. Tom went to it with Phillips. Hay, potatoes. Martin & Myers beef herd passed. Left one steer here.

"Sun, Sept 29 — (Bordeaux). Orr, McKay passed to Cheyenne. Brown & Yates herd near here.

"Mon, Sept 30 — (Bordeaux). Stacking hay. Branding some cattle. Weighed potatoes and prepared wagons to start to (Fort) Fetterman. Mr. (W. G.) Bullock went to (Hi) Kellys to attend primary meeting to elect delegates to county convention."

September of 1878 was apparently a more profitable month than usual for John Hunton. He recorded receipts of \$8,981.60 and expenditures of \$7,891.34. Most of his money came from government hay contracts in two payments, one of \$6,563.70, the other \$1,989.90. Other receipts were: E. U. Snyder & Co. \$132, L. P. Justy \$205, Wm. Brown \$20 and Tom Hunton \$1.

He paid E. Nagle \$800, H. Haas \$750, D. H. Russell \$213, Baptiste Pourier (Big Bat) \$375, Baptiste Garnier (Little Bat) \$200, Joe Alford \$150, Stebbins Post & Co. \$2,734.64, Scott Murray \$530, Bill Waln \$85, L. P. Justy \$505, R. Fryer \$30, George Bosler \$30 and for taxes \$86.40.

OCTOBER, 1878

"Tues, Oct 1 — (Cheyenne). Started cattle and wagons to (Fort) Fetterman. Went to Cheyenne, Tom with me. Saw M. (Malcolm) Campbell in Cheyenne.

"Wed, Oct 2 — In Cheyenne.

"Fri, Oct 4 — In Cheyenne. Mrs. Bullock returned from Fort Sanders, gave her \$100. Went to Laramie City. Hostile Cheyennes crossed the Railroad. Nice day.

"Sat, Oct 5 — In Laramie City. Paid taxes. Went to see Herman Liesner, gave him \$20. Saw Jim Bellamy who is running as shotgun man on R. R. Went to Rock Creek. (Heck) Reel's and other bull outfits here."

About 1867 Jim Bellamy and Bill Wilson started a ranch where the Bordeaux — Fort Fetterman road crossed Cottonwood Creek.

On the morning of March 19, 1868, Chief Crazy Horse with some sixty or more Ogalala and Minneconjou warriors attacked a road ranch on Horseshoe Creek near Twin Springs. The story of the fight that followed is told by Capt. John R. Smith, leader of the defenders, in Virginia Cole Trenholm's "Footprints on the Frontier". It lasted for three days and is known in history as the Battle of Horseshoe Creek. With Smith were Bill Worrell, Marion Thornburg, Bill Hill, George

Harris and Bill Harper. When the Indians burned them out of their stockade this stout-hearted little company eluded their besiegers in the early morning hours and started toward Fort Laramie. Along the way they picked up a trapper, David Dampier. But Crazy Horse and his band soon caught up with them and a long running fight followed. Harper, Dampier and Hill were killed and scalped. Eight or more Indians also died.

When the four surviving white men, all wounded, reached the Bellamy-Wilson ranch between two and three o'clock in the morning, Jim Bellamy rode hard through the remaining hours of darkness to Fort Laramie and returned before noon with E. Troop of the 4th Cavalry commanded by Capt. Dueese. They went back over the trail of battle, buried the dead where they fell and gathered up arm loads of arrows and other evidence of the fight. The four wounded survivors were hospitalized at Fort Laramie.

"Sun, Oct 6 — At Rock Creek all day doing nothing. Mexican and Bullock Squaw here looking for stolen horses, found them. Went to Rawlins.

"Mon, Oct 7 — At Rawlins. Pease nominated for Congress.

"Tues, Oct 8 — Returned to Rock Creek. Train arrived.

"Wed, Oct 9 — (Rock Creek). Loaded train with 619 sacks corn weighing 80,917 lbs.

"Thurs, Oct 10 — (Rock Creek). Train started to (Fort) Fetterman. I remain here waiting for mule teams. Anthrope loaded.

"Fri, Oct 11 — (Rock Creek). Gen. Crook passed East. Teams arrived.

"Sat, Oct 12 — (Cheyenne). Loaded teams with goods and coal, they were to start today. Went to Cheyenne. Republican convention met and nominated J. W. Downey for Congress. Saw Sam Boyd, Brown & Yates & other cattle men. They are shipping from Sidney.

"Sun, Oct 13 — (Bordeaux). Went to Chug on Coach. Not much done since I left. Road very dry and dusty.

"Mon, Oct 14 — (Bordeaux). Stacking hay. John Lind here, passing with cattle."

From October 15 to 20 John Hunton's activities at Bordeaux were limited to stacking hay, housing potatoes, making fence, hauling posts and poles, putting up his hay press and fixing the water pump.

"Sun, Oct 20 — (Bordeaux). Tom & Dan went hunting, killed mountain sheep and antelope. Zach Thomasson & round-up party at Beaver house. Bob Walker & his wife come to Ranch."

Zach Thomasson was an early day rancher near Chimney Rock. Later he became range manager for the Swan outfit at a reported salary of \$3,600 a year and was eventually

one of the partners in that sprawling cattle empire.

"Mon, Oct 21 — (Roundup). Went to roundup. Fixing fence around hay stack. Dan fixing root house. Found cow & calf. Branded calf and hurt cow.

"Tues, Oct 22 — (Bordeaux). Men cutting wood and fixing root house. Settled with John (Portugee) Phillips, paid him \$150 in full of all dues. Irvine, Whipple, Rogers, Draper, Miller, Foglesong etc. here tonight.

"Wed, Oct 23 — (Bordeaux). Rogers surveyed land between here and (John) Owens. All parties left. Fencing hay stack. Raining & snowing all day.

"Sat, Oct 26 — (Bordeaux). Baled some hay. Draper & Foglesong here last night. Helpenstein passed today.

"Sun, Oct 27 — At Ranch (Bordeaux). Snow & Johnson here on electioneering tour. Gen. Merritt here tonight.

"Mon, Oct 28 — (Bordeaux). Lumber and grain arrived. Fixed old wagon. Cleaning up about place. Preparing to go to (Fort) Fetterman. Ash (Ashenfelter) here for short time.

"Tues, Oct 29 — Started to Fetterman in light wagon. Lallee with me. Nooned at (Johnny) Gordons. Saw Tom Huffman & others.

"Wed, Oct 30 — Staid at Millers on

Cottonwood last night. Went to Johnson & Walkers."

Tobe Miller ran that road ranch on Cottonwood Creek where Hunton and Lallee spent the night of October 29, 1878. Much of Mr. Miller's business came from the many bull and mule-team freight trains which passed his place on their way to and from Fort Fetterman..

"Thurs, Oct 31 — Staid at J. & W's. (Johnson & Walkers) last night. Went to LaBontee today. Killed some antelope."

Hunton's recorded receipts totaled \$6,245.40 and his expenditures \$5,114.75 during October, 1878. \$1500 came in from Stebbins Post & Co., \$100 from Fred Schwatz and \$4,640.40 from his government hay contract. His expenditures included: substantial payments to a number of Cheyenne business men and firms which have been mentioned numerous times previously. Malcolm Campbell \$50, Nagle for Tom Hunton \$200, Albany county taxes \$186 (for property listed by Hunton for taxation in Albany County see June 30 entry), saddle for Waln \$57.90 and cash for Waln \$500, R.R. fare to Laramie \$5.20 and to Rawlins and return \$16, George Underwood \$111.65, Surveyor Rogers \$5, and Stebbins Post & Co. \$3,000.

NOVEMBER, 1878

"Fri, Nov 1 — (Milk Ranch on La-Prele). Staid at Frenchman's (Flagothier's) on LaBontee last night. Got to Milk Ranch 11 A.M. Blacksmith hurt his hand and not at work. Shops have not done much since I left.

"Sat, Nov 2 — (Milk Ranch). At Shops. Went to Post (Fetterman). Settled with (E.) Tillotson and left money with him to pay Chester Clark \$246. (Heck) Reel's mule teams got in. Troops paid off today.

"Sun, Nov 3 — Went to Box Elder. Everything all right there. (L. P.) Justy come to Ranch electioneering. Very fine day.

"Mon, Nov 4 — (Little Bat's Camp). Went with (George) Drake via Bat's camp to look for timber. Killed two deer. Found some suitable timber.

"Tues, Nov 5 — (Box Elder Ranch). Staid at Bat's last night. Went to 2nd range and found all the poles I may want. Went to Ranch. Men went to Election.

"Wed, Nov 6 — (Box Elder). At Ranch last night and all day. Drake & Mike went to get out poles. (Jim) Berry went to round—(?).

"Thurs, Nov 7 — (Milk Ranch Shops). At Ranch last night. Went to Shops. L. (Lallee) with me. Parties un-

known robbed Six Mile Ranch. I think it likely they were soldiers. Mail arrived. Letter from (Governor) Thayer saying freight bill had been paid."

That "Six Mile Ranch" robbed above was probably an establishment near the Fort Fetterman military reservation, and not to be confused with that other notorious Six Mile Ranch near Fort Laramie. Both were similar in character and known as "Hog" ranches, where drinking, gambling, fighting and tenderloin ladies were the order of the day — and night.

And since Mr. Hunton seems to rise above mentioning the results of that 1878 election it is probably safe to assume that the democrats did not win it.

"Fri, Nov 8 — (Milk Ranch). At Shops. Te'legraphed Tom to come up (from Bordeaux) with light wagon. Bill Williams' train in here and having some work done."

The Bill Williams who stopped to have some wagon repair work done at Hunton's shops on LaPrele may have been a man named William R. Williams, a native of Nova Scotia, who came to Wyoming Territory in the late sixties or early seventies. Mr. Williams engaged in lumbering for some years and then homesteaded in Albany County near Tie Siding, where he built up a cattle ranch and lived out his life.

"Sat, Nov 9 — At Shops. (Charly)

Clay's train in and had some work done. Went to Post (Fetterman) for mail. No letters. Got baling wire. Train in and camped near Platte, light loaded.

"Sun, Nov 10 — At Ranch all day. Train ponies lost last night. Train crossed Platte & rolled. Tom Hunton & (Jim) Monroe come to Shops. Little snow.

"Mon, Nov 11 — (Milk Ranch Shops). Had bay horses and Medicine mules shod. Went to Post (Fetterman). Got 6 roosters from Capt. Coats. Found train ponies. Tom Mathews & George Drake here & went to Box Elder. (Heck) Reel's train here from (Fort) McKinney.

"Tues, Nov 12 — At Shops all day. Tom (Hunton) & Lallee went to Chug. Jim Berry took train ponies to train.

"Wed, Nov 13 — Went to Post (Fetterman). Borrowed two bales hay from Q.M. and sent them to Ranch by (Jim) Monroe. Got 12 hens & 4 roosters from Capt. Coats. Went to Box Elder. (Jim) Berry not back. Tom Maxwell committed suicide at Dyers Hotel in Cheyenne by poison. Nice day."

The Maxwell Ranch along the Chug is shown on map No. 1 about half way between Hi Kelly's and Portugee Phillips'. We understand that Mr. Kelly and Tom Maxwell were related by marriage and more or less associated together in business, but are at a loss to

explain what impelled Mr. Maxwell to thus precipitate his departure from this vale of tears in such a public place.

"Thurs, Nov 14—Went to (Little) Bat's camp. George (Drake) & Mike got out few posts and poles. Went to Ranch. Berry not back. Tom & Bat tore down beaver dam. George Via here to-night.

"Fri, Nov 15 — Went to Post (Fetterman). Bat with me. Paid George Via 240\$ for 30 tons hau. Maj. Woolcot went to Cheyenne. Tony Early passed, left sorrel horse & saddle at Shop. (Jim) Monroe left. (Jim) Berry not back."

On November 12 it will be recalled that John Hunton sent Jim Berry to take some stray ponies back to that bull train which "crossed the Platte and rolled" north on November 10. Apparently Mr. Hunton anticipated that this little chore would take only a few hours, or a day at most, because for the next three days he takes pains to record his puzzlement and perhaps concern over Berry's failure to come back. Maybe Jim Berry isn't COMING back! He may have other plans afoot out there on the old Bozeman Trail. At least subsequent events suggest that possibility to a suspicious mind.

"Sun, Nov 17—Went to Fort (Fetterman) for mail. Letter from Stebbins Post & Co. stating remitted W. J. Cave 350\$. Got late Cheyenne papers, no spe-

cial news except Tom Maxwell's death. (Heck) Reel's mule train arrived from Rock Creek. Mike come to Shops with mules & wagon.

"Mon, Nov 18 — Milk Ranch on La-Prele). Had wheel mules shod and thimbles tightened. Sent load (80) poles to Box Elder. Lord & Smith train passed. Reel's mule train went to Rock Creek.

"Tues, Nov 19 — Shops all day not doing much. Corralled beef for (N.) Kipp (2 SO cows). Co. "A" 4th Infy arrived.

"Wed, Nov 20 — Went to Post (Fetterman) for mail. Letter from Collins (probably Ft. Laramie Post Trader G. H. Collins) wanting to buy hay. Telegraphed him would sell 40 tons for \$9.50 on ground or \$15 delivered baled. No answer today. Attended Govt. sale of old stuff.

"Thurs, Nov 21 — Shops. Telegraphed Q.M. Fort Laramie would sell 50 to 300 tons baled hay for \$16 pr. ton. Telegram from Hass wagon springs not sent. Co. "C" 4th Infy left Fetterman for (Fort) Sanders. Lt. Webster in command. Capt. Coats will remain at Fetterman for some time.

"Fri, Nov 22 — Shops. Fryer to Post (Fetterman). Letter from Posey Wilson acknowledging receipt of \$125 — no papers. Heard mail was robbed be-

tween Brown Springs and Antelope (Springs). Trabing's bull outfit camped here tonight. Sam Groves and John Lind passed to Fort. Roundup party will work between here and Box Elder tomorrow."

Robberies of U. S. mail carried by stage coach took a big spurt during the summer and fall of 1878, and post office authorities considered the territory between Fort Fetterman and Fort McKinney the most lawless and dangerous of all. The wild country around Pumpkin Buttes was a favorite hideout for outlaws and in 1878 Frank and Jesse James and their boys are supposed to have had their headquarters in the valley of Little Goose Creek. A rather peculiar situation also existed in regard to troops guarding the mails. After the Civil War Congress passed legislation limiting the army's posse comitatus activities for reasons now somewhat obscure. Road agents apparently discovered they had little to fear from the soldiers, often treated them with contempt. There are said to be cases on record where military escorts permitted stage robbers to disarm them and steal their horses without a fight — all a bit confusing and hard to understand today.

But about this chap Jim Berry. History now tells us, in its deliberate way, that one Jim Berry was in on that Big Springs, Nebraska train robbery (see page 253, Volume 2) and that he is also suspected of having been one of the gang which killed Stage Driver

Johnny Slaughter (page 201, Volume 2). There is, of course, no reason to assume that John Hunton knew these things.

But Mr. Hunton does record that this, or somer other, Jim Berry left his Box Elder Ranch November 6 and "went to round—" — and that very night or the next day "parties unknown robbed the (nearby) Six Mile Ranch." Then on November 12 Hunton sends this Jim Berry with some strayed ponies to catch his bull train lumbering north from Fort Fetterman and is quite puzzled when Berry fails to return. Next we hear of that mail robbery November 22 between Brown and Antelope Springs, right on the old Bozeman Trail where Jim Berry vanished with those ponies.

In the interest of law and order it would seem that Mr. Berry's activities during November, 1878 merit closer scrutiny — but it's probably a little late for that now.

"Sat, Nov 23—(Milk Ranch on La-Prele). Shops. Baptiste (Garnier) here. Went to Post (Fetterman) with him. Mail arrived, no letters. Will stay at Post to-night. Telegram from Q.M. Fort Laramie, don't want any hay.

"Sun, Nov 24—At Post (Fetterman) all day. Co.'s "B" & "E" 4th Infty passed to (Fort) Sanders.

"Mon, Nov 25—At Post last night. Co. "I" 4th Infty passed. Went to Shops. Athrop's train passed to McKinney. Fryer

complaining and went to Post, worked but little today.

"Tues, Nov 26—Shops. Fryer went to Box Elder and other places, rode my horse. Working on light wagon.

"Thurs, Nov 28 — Shops. Work on light wagon. Bat here with team on way to Chug. Fryer come. Shod Bat's team. Capt. Pollock & Co. passed. Crocket with him.

'Sat, Nov 30—Shops. Setting tires all day. W. H. Brown here tonight on way to Montana."

In some of his later writings John Hunton recalls that after the Battle of Horseshoe Creek (see October 5 entry) he and two other men, W. H. Brown and Antoine Ladeau accompanied Capt. Thomas DeWeiss and the troops from Fort Laramie over the trail of that savage fight and helped bury the dead. Not surprisingly, there are a number of discrepancies between Hunton's account and that of John R. Smith—each told his tale many years after the event. Smith, for example, says it was E. Troop of the 4th Cavalry under Capt. Duesse which responded. Hunton says it was Co. A of the 2nd Cavalry commanded by Capt. DeWeiss which did the job. One thing appears certain, both Hunton and Smith had the same captain in mind—Duesse and DeWeiss are obviously different spellings of the same name.

Mr. Hunton spent about twice what he took in during November, 1878—his recorded

receipts were \$1526.50, expenditures \$3155.74. He received \$388 for freight, the balance of his income being, presumably, borrowed money from Stebbins Post & Co. and his Fort Fetterman banker Mr. E. Tillotson.

Among his expenditures were: Chester Clark \$246, W. H. Murphy \$300, Dan Latham \$22, H. Borgmier \$24.50, W. J. Cave \$350, Bill Waln \$320, Fred Shutz (or Shirtz) \$49.16, Tobias (Tobe) Miller \$94, Nick Theis (blacksmith) \$100 and \$99.08, George Via \$240, George Bosler \$20, Fryer \$400, and for those chickens he got from Capt. Coats \$20.50.

DECEMBER, 1878

"Sun, Dec 1—Settled with Nick Theis blacksmith). Went to Box Elder. Geo. Drake and Mike in the timber. Sent for them.

"Mon, Dec 2—Went to Shops (at Milk Ranch). Mike started to Chug (Bordeaux) & Cheyenne with 6 mule team trail wagon. Tom Mathews went to Shop, had John horse shod.

"Tues., Dec 3—Shops. Train arrived and loaded hay racks on wagons. Settled with Fryer and took rect. in full. Loaded hides & tallow on mule wagon to take to Cheyenne for Kipp.

"Wed, Dec 4—(Milk Ranch on La-Prele). Mule team started to Cheyenne, (George) Drake took cow ponies to Chug

(Bordeaux). Tore down Milk Ranch and loaded it and all other things there, except Shops, to take to Box Elder.

"Thurs, Dec 5—Shops. Train started to Box Elder. Paid night herder. Lost \$60 from my pocketbook near the fire when I paid the herder. Turned over the Shops to Robert Fryer. Sold him all hard wood left there except enough to finish my wagon. Went to Post (Fetterman) and reported to Capt. Coats that I had moved Milk Ranch & abandoned shops to Fryer.

"Fri, Dec 6—Post (Fetterman) last night. Went to shops, got books and papers from (Robert) Fryer. Went to Box Elder. Unloaded everything from train. Parked wagons, racks & beds for winter. Paid off train hands.

"Sat, Dec 7 — Cow Ranch (on Box Elder). Turned work cattle, 78 head, on dry creek between here and Deer Creek. Bill Waln took teamsters' bedding to Fort and LaPrelle with Bill & Blue horses. Tom, Jim & myself working on bridge this P.M.

"Sun, Dec 8 — Cow Ranch. Looking over Shops books nearly all day. Settled with Powell & McMillan and with George McMillan who owed me a bal. of 8\$ and over. Shorty got in with team and turned out. Clear, cold, about 2 inches snow on ground.

"Mon, Dec 9—(Box Elder Ranch).

Worked on bridge all day and told Tom what work I wanted him to do.

"Tues, Dec 10—Started to Chug (Bordeaux). Bill Waln and two men with me, 5 horses. Nooned on LaBontee.

"Wed, Dec 11—Horse Shoe last night. Nooned at Gordon's. Got to Ranch (Bordeaux) 7 P.M. Everything all right.

"Thurs, Dec 12 — (Bordeaux). At Ranch. Went to (John) Owens to see him about buying his horse team, did not buy. Compared accounts with Bill Waln, owe \$425 on his summers work.

"Fri, Dec 13—Went to Cheyenne with Waln. Drove through in one day arriving 7½ P.M. Met Mr. (W. G.) Bullock and Maj. Drew on the road. Snowed some last night. Cold.

"Sat, Dec 14—In Cheyenne. Loaded team.

"Sun, Dec 15 — In Cheyenne. Mike started with team.

"Mon, Dec 16—In Cheyenne. Not doing anything.

"Tues, Dec 17 — In Cheyenne. Got \$1500 of Stebbins Post & Co. Paid Bill Waln off. He started East. Paid other bills.

"Wed, Dec 18 — Started home. Geo. Drake with me. Met Fred Swartz going to town.

"Thurs, Dec 19—Staid at Bards last night. Nooned at Kellys. Got horse of him

to work home and left Goose there sick. Got home 3½ P.M. Putting up ice.

"Fri. Dec 20—(Bordeaux). Teams fixing to go to Fetterman, changing loads etc. Finished the ice. Greasing harness etc. Sam Groves & John Lind come to Ranch.

"Sat, Dec 21—Ranch. Greasing harness etc. Sam Groves & Lind staid all day. Settled up with Sam D. Groves and owe him tonight \$1360.

"Sun, Dec 22 — (Bordeaux). Sam Groves went to Cheyenne. Loan him Fram horse to work in. Not doing much. Tom & Dan hunting, caught nothing. Loaded hay on wagons and prepared to start teams to (Fort) Fetterman. Stormy and unpleasant.

"Mon. Dec 23—(Bordeaux). George Drake and Mike Hauley (or Hanley) started to Fetterman with two teams. Tom, Dan & William Bullock, Jr. went hunting. Hugh Jackson & party nooned here. Stormy nearly all day, very cold.

"Wed, Dec 25—Chug Ranch (Bordeaux). Took absolute holiday all day. (Billy) Bacon & wife come at night.

"Thurs, Dec 26 — Chug. Doing but very little. Making cow shed. 8 or 10 freight teams passed, some camped here. Looking over and straightening up papers all day.

"Sat, Dec 28—(Bordeaux). Patton & others here last night. Tom Hunton got

home from hunt. Dan will be in tomorrow. Chaplin stoping to get to (Fort) McKinney.

"Sun, Dec 29—(Bordeaux). Tex, Fred Hess, Rhemeyer and others here to dinner. Dan and William (Bullock, Jr.) got home with game. Accepted Sam Groves order to Hellman for \$100.60 and give him, Sam, my note for \$1260 on demand.

"Mon, Dec 30 — (Bordeaux). Sam Groves, John Lind, (Capt.) Coats & others here last night. All left. Mr. (W. G.) Bullock & Tom went to Cheyenne in light wagon, worked little sorrel mares. Maj. Wham camped here going to Fetterman & McKinney. Issued him hay & wood. Very cold.

"Tues, Dec 31 — (Bordeaux). Baling hay. Not doing anything myself."

John Hunton took in \$3359.85, spent \$3281.48, according to his cash account for December. His largest receipt was \$1646.20 for freighting. He also received \$1600 from Stebbins Post & Co. and \$168 from his now abandoned shops at the old Milk Ranch on LaPrele.

It will be recalled that on December 6 he tore down and removed everything, except the shops, from the Milk Ranch to his cow ranch on Box Elder, parked his freighting equipment for the winter and "Paid off train hands." Following are the names of that bull-train crew of long ago and the amounts they received: Jas. Julfs (?) \$128.87, Henry Kellog \$54.36,

George Burg \$128.55, John Milburn \$42.81, John St. Clair \$82, and Dan Sleeper \$16.89.

Original serial publication of the above item showing payment by John Hunton of \$54.36 to bull-train "hand" Henry Kellogg brought forth some old memories. The accompanying photograph of Mr. Kellogg, taken long after his bull-whacking days were over, was received from a daughter, Mrs. Lucy Kellogg Soden, of Cheyenne, Wyoming.

And L. C. Bishop, Wyoming State Engineer, furnished details of Mr. Kellogg's career in early Wyoming, as summarized below:

"Henry W. Kellogg was my father's partner, first in the freighting business and later in ranching. He was born November 8, 1856, in Treadwell, New York, came west in 1876, married Matilda Schmidt May 4, 1893 and died in Tacoma, Washington, February 19, 1942. His widow and four children survived him.

"According to my memory it was about 1879 or 80 that Mr. Kellogg and my father, S. A. Bishop, bought a freight outfit either from George Powell or John Hunton. They hauled freight for the government (and under sub-contract) from Rock Creek to Fort Fetterman and from Cheyenne to Fort Laramie.

"They sold their freight outfit about 1882 and started ranching together after purchasing squatter's right from Noel Seminoe, a halfbreed, for \$75. Their brand was reverse BK, connected. I believe it was at the instiga-



Henry W. Kellogg
Well Earned Rest for an Old Bullwhacker

tion of George Powell, who wanted some white neighbors, that my father and Kellogg as well as Ed Smith settled on the LaPrele.

"Their ranch was joined on the west by the Ed Smith ranch and on the east by Pat Tobin's place. The partners built one of the first frame houses in that locality in the fall of 1883 before my father's marriage in March of 1884.

"When Mr. Kellogg married our hired girl, Matilda Schmidt, in 1893 the partnership was dissolved and the ranch divided, the Kelloggs taking the upper or Sand Creek portion and the Bishops the lower part on LaPrele Creek."



*The House Bishop and Kellogg Built
on the LaPrele*

Mr. Kellogg appears on the right in this photograph, S. A. Bishop on the left. The object on the porch is a large pumpkin with

Mr. Bishop's hat on it. The partners were quite proud of the fine vegetables they raised on the rich bottom lands of the LaPrele—marketed them at Fort Fetterman and later in the new town of Douglas.

Henry Kellogg lives in the memory of State Engineer Bishop as "Uncle Hank".

Among Hunton's many other expenditures for December were: Night Herder \$38.50 (this unnamed gent may have also benefited from the \$60 Mr. Hunton lost from his pocketbook—December 5 entry), subscription to the "Daily Leader" \$10, books etc \$5.75, Bard \$4.50, Jim Berry to Huffman \$50, and substantial sums to a number of previously mentioned Cheyenne merchants.

Hunton kept no record of money received and paid out during January of 1878, but for the remaining eleven months he records receipts totaling \$35,244.76, almost balanced by an outlay of \$34,408.50.

At the year's end he lists the following bills receivable: Frank D. Yates \$23.50, C. & B. H. Stage Co. \$265, C. J. Flagothier (the Frenchman at LaBonte crossing) \$93.25, F. W. Schwartz \$425, A. H. Reel \$212. And he owed: J. W. Waln \$93, Sam D. Groves (note) \$1260, Tom Mathews (note) \$1000 plus a balance of \$450.

John Hunton closes his journal for 1878 with this memorandum on freight rates for the coming year:

*"Proposed bid for freight 1879 from
Rock (Creek) to*

			<i>Fetterman</i>		<i>McKinney</i>
<i>July</i>	-	-	90	-	2.30.
<i>Aug.</i>	-	-	90	-	2.30.
<i>Sept.</i>	-	-	90	-	2.30.
<i>Oct.</i>	-	-	95	-	2.50.
<i>Nov.</i>	-	-	1.20	-	2.75.
<i>May</i>	-	-	1.20	-	2.75.
<i>June</i>	-	-	95	-	2.30."

PART TWO - - 1879

JANUARY, 1879:

- New Models Every Year Not Essential.
- Beef Bids for the Military—A Comparison of the "Price Spread" Then and Now.
- Convinced He Has Heart Disease—Half Century of Active Living Ahead.
- Ed Chaplain Hitch Hikes Bull Train Ride in Zero Weather.
- Cheyenne Indians Massacred at Fort Robinson.
- Lallee Reports Little Bat's "Jaw Bone Amputated"—He Makes Quick Recovery.
- Curly Coleman Buys Hay for Six Mile Ranch.
- Fifth Cavalry Camps at Chug Springs—Consumes 6,900 Pounds Hay.
- Builds New Shops at Box Elder Ranch.
- Hard Month on Stock—Many Work and Beef Cattle Dead on the Range.

FEBRUARY, 1879:

- Maybe There Were Two Jim Berrys—One an Outlaw, One a Builder.
- Little Bat Hauling Logs for Bridge.
- Sawing Lumber at Fort Fetterman.
- Dan Titus Fails to Please as Blacksmith.

A Spring Bath and Clean Clothes.
Overhauling Freight Wagons at Box Elder
Shops.
Tries Out Coal from Lacey's Mine—Frank
Lacey Arrested.
George Powell Buys Heck Reel's Freight
Outfit.
Range Cattle Near Starvation—None Fit
for Beef.
All Hands Sick—Sounds Like the Flu.
Building House at Box Elder Headquarters.

MARCH, 1879:

Bags White Deer on Hunt.
Maj. Mason Assumes Fort Fetterman
Command.
Burning Charcoal for Army at 30 Cents a
Bushel.
Finds Ten Dead Cattle on Box Elder.
Mail Contractor Blows Up—Government
Takes Over.
Maj. Frank Wolcott Conceived the Johnson
County War.
Grand View of Big Horns, Pumpkin Buttes
and Powder River Range from Pole
Camp on Deer Creek.

APRIL, 1879:

George Drake Employed by Stage Company.
Capt. Powell Defeated Red Cloud in
"Wagon Box Fight".

Johnny Owens Trades Ranch on Chug for
75 Tons Hay and 15 Texas Steers.
Buys Eight Freight Wagons of Herman
Haas.

To Omaha for Government Contract
Letting.

Five Bandits Really Cleaned Out W. P.
Noble's Cow Camp.

Henry Wagner Was Laramie City's First
Dry Goods Merchant.

Bids on Hay, Wood and Charcoal for Forts
Laramie, Fetterman and McKinney.

E. U. Snyder Was First Post Trader at
Fort McKinney.

Hogerson Twins Born at Fort Fetterman—
New Experience for Both Mother and
Doctor—But Everyone Helped.

Four Horses for \$272 at Government Sale.
Beef Bids for Forts Robinson, Laramie,
Fetterman and McKinney.

Ninety Five Dollars Buys a Set of Harness.

MAY, 1879:

Russell Thorp Had Fine Horses—Summary
of His Career.

Frewen Brothers Built a Castle on Powder River—But the Buffalo's Skull Outlasted It.

Many Outfits Out on Roundup.

Fetterman Commander Approves Herding Cattle Off Hay Meadows—Easier said Than Done.

George McMillan Offered \$6,500 for 1000 Cords Wood Delivered at Fort Fetterman.

Hunton's Roundup Crew—Tom Hunton, Jim Berry and Bill Waln, with Bob Waln Cook and Chuck Wagon Skinner.

Gathering Work Cattle, "Necking" Young Steers, Overhauling Wagons—Bull-Whackers Arrive.

Tax Valuations on Cattle in 1879.

JUNE, 1879:

Roundup Swims Herd Across Platte River. Lallee and Sister Visit Their Brother, Little Bat.

Necks 37 New Work Oxen—Sells 10 to McMillan, 6 to Waln.

Bull Train Rolls from Fetterman to Rock Creek for 175,000 Pound Cargo.

Lord & Smith Sell Ox Train—100 Cattle, 15 Wagons for \$5,000.

How Hat Creek Station Got Located on the Wrong Creek.

Bull Train Makes 20 Miles in Day—Loads

6 Tons Grain to Each Team at Rock Creek.

Mrs. W. G. Bullock Ill in Cheyenne.

Hot Spell at Bordeaux—99 Degrees in House, 118 in Sun.

Large Panther Sighted on Horse Shoe Creek.

Lind Gathers 1600 "CY" Cattle on Box Elder.

Extra Bulls and Chains Help Freight Train Cross the Platte.

Boots \$9, Trotting Assn. \$25, Subscription to Cheyenne Leader \$10.

JULY, 1879:

Hay Harvest on Box Elder Completed in One Week.

Thermometer 100 in Shade, 130 in Sun at Fort Fetterman.

Buys Lame Cattle from Taylor, 26 Head for \$275.

Fort Fetterman Orders 150 Tons Baled Hay.

Freighter Handly Taken from Bull Train to Fetterman Hospital.

George McMillan Hauling Firewood to Fetterman.

Controversy With Wolcott Over Deer Creek Hay—Fetterman Commander Refuses to Intervene.

Dan Titus Loses His Mules.

Mrs. W. G. Bullock Not Expected to Live.
Tooth Doctor's Bill \$105.

AUGUST, 1879:

Lum Waln Charged \$10 for Passengers, 5c
Pound for Freight, from Cheyenne to
the Black Hills.

All Freight Wagons on the Road—Eight
Teams Haul 30 Tons Hay from Deer
Creek to Fetterman.

Thayer Pays \$2000 Freight Bill.

Mrs. W. G. Bullock Dies in Cheyenne—
Husband Accompanies Body to Lynch-
burg, Virginia.

John Denny Drove Stage for a Long Time.
High Employment Turnover Among Bull
Whackers.

Colin Hunter Sells Bull Team, Six Work
Cattle and Wagon, for \$200.

"Hand" and Squaw Visit Three Days at
Bordeaux.

Bull Train Off to Bad Start—One Wagon
Breaks Down, Another Upsets at Chug
Springs and Night Herder Loses Cattle.

I. C. Whipple Active in Pioneer Chamber of
Commerce.

Gold Button from Black Hills Valued at
\$7,400.

Bob Walker One of First Permanent Settlers
on Horseshoe Creek.

Rumor That Colin Hunter Has Sold Out to Swan.

Skunk Bites Him on Top of Head.

Dave Lord Hired to Run Bull Train. 14 Wagons and 98 Cattle, for \$75 Month.

Trailing Beeves from Fetterman to R. R. at Pine Bluffs—Twelve Day Trip.

Wolcott's Herd of 5000 Passes Box Elder.

Robert Fryer's Blacksmith and Wagon Shop a Busy Place.

Shirt and Vest Cost \$6, Watch \$12 and Trunk \$11.

Francis E. Warren Became Senior Member of U. S. Senate.

SEPTEMBER, 1879:

Paid for 378 Cords Wood, 118 Tons Hay —Cow Hides Bring $8\frac{1}{2}$ Cents Pound.

Big Bat Pourier and Family Bordeaux Visitors.

Five-Team Bull Train Hauls 35 Tons Baled Hay.

Bordeaux to Cheyenne a Day's Drive for Good Team.

Attends Masonic Lodge for First Time in Twelve Years.

Shipping Cattle from Pine Bluffs.

Why Col. Pratt Called Cheyenne Club Members "Herefords".

- Ferris-Haggerty Mine in Carbon County
Sells for Million Dollars.
- Steers \$3.20 per Hundred in Council Bluffs,
\$3.90 at Chicago—Weigh 1200 to 1400
Pounds.
- Sees "Pinafore" in Chicago—Decides Once
is Enough.
- Henry and Will Swan Pioneered Cattle Rais-
ing in Saratoga Valley—Headquarters at
Ft. Steele, Brand "L7".
- Gets Hay Press Repairs from Dodge at Flint,
Michigan, "Nice Town of About
10,000".
- Jane Combs Stars in "Lady Teasel".
- State Fair at Detroit Has Good Displays of
Cattle and Agricultural Implements.
- General Crook is Traveling Companion.
- Col. A. T. Babbitt Promoted Smelter at
Today's Ghost Town of Fairbanks.
- Fire Destroys Deadwood Business Section—
Merchants Quickly Rebuild.
- Bill Waln Quits Freighting—Goes Home to
Iowa.
- Baling Hay at McUlvan's and Colin
Hunter's All Month.
- Money Month—Receipts \$8,000 During
September, 1879, and He Does Some High
Living.

OCTOBER, 1879:

Utes On War Path—Charles Frederick
Among Troops Sent Against Them.

"Thornburg's Massacre"—And How a
"Corpse" Came to Life.

Fall Roundup and Potato Digging Time.

M. F. Coleman Had Ranch Where Fetterman
Road Crossed Bitter Cottonwood.

Chugwater Telegraph Operator Frank Also
Line Repair Man.

Work Cattle Worn and Thin—Some Die
Under the Yoke.

Train Load Colin Hunter's Hay Leaves
Bordeaux for Fetterman.

Making One Hundred 200-Pound Bales Was
a Good Day's Work.

Warren Sawyer Proved Up on Homestead
in 1876.

A Horse Deal With Judge Joseph M. Carey.

C. F. Miller Credited Bible and Pair of
Scissors With Saving His Life.

S. F. Nuckles Had "Traveling Store" Which
Followed Building of Union Pacific.

J. W. Donnelan Was Cashier of Laramie
City's First Bank.

NOVEMBER, 1879:

Wood and Hay for Fort Fetterman Bring
Over \$5000.

Hunting Winter Pasture for Work Cattle
Along the Bozeman Trail.

Freight Season Over, Yokes and Chains
Stored Away, All Hands Paid Off.

Dave Lord Takes 164 Oxen to Winter
Range on Dry Cheyenne.

Fred St. Dennis Starts Road Ranch at
Horseshoe Crossing.

To Denver, Golden and Georgetown with
"Legislative Excursion".

Erasmus Nagle Headed Wyoming Capitol
Building Commission—Built Cheyenne's
Finest Home.

DECEMBER, 1879:

Maj. Frank Wolcott, Controversial Figure,
Represented British Interests. Helped
Organize Converse County.

L. P. Justy Ill at Bordeaux, Dr. Grimes
Called from Ft. Laramie.

Arthur Coffee Accidentally Shoots and Kills
Self.

Teschmacher & DeBillier Buy Duck Bar
Ranch—a Fabulous Pair.

How Jim May Lost His Prisoners—They
Escaped Into Eternity.

Bob Walker Was a Lonesome Man—His
Wives Did Not Like the Wilderness.

Tom Hunton and Dan Titus Go Hunting—
Take Provisions for Two Weeks.

Treating Sore-Backed Saddle Horses.

Pioneer Ranchers on LaBonte and LaPrele Creeks.

Goodby Lallee—She Leaves Bordeaux with Gifts of Team, Wagon, Harness and Money.

A Dull Christmas in Cheyenne—Sickness Follows the Holidays.

The Remarkable Madame Lurline Monte Verdi, Physician and Surgeon to an Out-law Gang.

An Era of the Frontier Passing—Fantastic New One Is A'Bornin.

Part Two - - - 1879

JANUARY, 1879

The form and printed contents of the book in which John Hunton kept his journal for 1879 show little change from previous years. The astronomical calculations; church days; calendar; interest tables; domestic and foreign postage rates, population of states, territories and principal cities, and data concerning the presidents of the United States (Rutherford B. Hayes now holding that job)—all this information is shown under the same old headings and illustrated with the same old wood cuts as in past years. Apparently there was no driving urge or necessity to come out with new models every year in those days. A more relaxed way of life than our own — in some ways at least.

Mr. Hunton inscribed the flyleaf of this book as follows:

"JOHN HUNTON

*P. O. Bordeaux, Wyo. Ter., or Fort
Fetterman, Wyo. Ter.*

*If found, or taken by "The Round-
ers", please send to one of the above named
places and receive reward."*

Also in the front of the book are these notations of beef bids for the military:

"Beef (Fort) Laramie:

Coad	-	Block	7.50	-	Hoof	6.00
Carroll	-	"	8 $\frac{7}{8}$	-	"	4.90
Phillips	-	"	6.50	-	"	5.75
Hunton	-	"	6.25	-	"	5.50

"(Fort) Robinson:

Green	-	-	-	-	\$6.95
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"(Fort) Fetterman:

Ward	-	-	-	-	\$8.25
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"(Fort) McKinney :

Kelly	-	Block	6.74	-	Hoof	6.74
Smith	-	"	7.50	-	"	6.25."

An interesting thing about those beef bids of the 19th century is the small price spread between meat on the hoof and meat on the block. On the average it appears to have been about one cent a pound, or roughly fifteen percent. And in some cases, as with Mr. Kelly above and Mr. Hunton on previous occasions, the bids were the same, the bidders apparently willing to "throw in" the costs of butchering in exchange for the hides, tallow and other by-products they retained.

What a change there has been! Now-a-days the price spread between the cost of a pound of beef on the hoof and in the butcher shop is closer to fifty cents than it is to one cent; several hundred percent instead of about fifteen percent. Today the animal the producer

sells for fifteen to thirty cents a pound costs the consumer fifty to ninety cents a pound over the counter, and often more. And instead of "throwing in" slaughtering costs for the by-products, today's system of butchering, processing and retailing meat costs the ultimate consumer several times as much, for those services alone, as the man who raises the meat receives for it.

Of course there is quite a difference between the methods and costs of handling meat in 1879 and in 1960—but just the same today's price spread between "hoof" and "block" makes one moodily suspicious that today's system of pricing meat from the stockyards to the retailer may be squeezing the producers with one hand, the consumer with the other — at least a little bit.

"Wed, Jan 1 — Chug (Bordeaux). Doing nothing. Have rheumatism in right shoulder. Morris Kelaha's man here last night going to Powder River after bull train. Have been suffering for long time with heart disease. Snowed all night and some today. Thermom. 25 below at dark."

For any possible comfort or reassurance it may bring to others with a secret fear that all is not well with the old ticker, John Hutton lived a very active life for almost fifty years after his above dark foreboding.

"Thurs, Jan 2 — Chug. Not doing much. Hunter's Govt. train passed to

(Fort) Laramie. Loomis went to Cheyenne. Thermometer 26 below 0 last night.

"Fri, Jan 3 — Chug. Chopping wood, feeding etc. Charly Wild's train passed to (Fort) McKinney, Ed Chaplain, who has been here for the last 7 days, went with Wild. Jack Williams passed to Cheyenne. Thermom. 14 below last night.

"Sat, Jan 4 — Chug. Not doing much. Men repairing fence on bluf. Wrote to Mollie Hall inclosing \$10. Thermom. 12 below last night.

"Sun, Jan 5 — Chug. Doing nothing. Having considerable difficulty with my heart. Cannot sleep well on account of it. Weather moderated.

"Mon, Jan 6 — Chug. Not doing much on account of high wind. Slept but little last night on account of heart troubles, palpitation and stoppage of circulation but not much pain. Phillips & wife and teams here.

"Tues, Jan 7—Chug. Phillips' wife Patton teams here. Tom arrived, Huffman with him. Snowed all night, high wind, snow flying.

"Wed, Jan 8 — Chug. Phillips & party left. (T. A.) Kent passed. Jim Lane here to get some work done.

"Thurs, Jan 9 — Chug. L. (Lallee) went to 'Bats' (Baptiste Garnier, her bro-

ther). Lane here getting work done. Toney Early and party staid here to night on way to 'The Hills'.

"Fri, Jan 10 — Chug. Getting wood etc. (T. A.) Kent passed going home. Lane went home. Cheyennes massacred at Fort Robinson."

That massacre of Cheyenne Indians at Fort Robinson, Nebraska is not a very proud page in our history. The following brief summary of it is based on the account in George Bird Grinnell's book, "The Fighting Cheyennes".

Following General Crook's victorious and crushing campaign against the northern tribes in 1876 most of the Cheyennes surrendered and many were sent far south into Indian Territory, now the state of Oklahoma. This change from their high, dry mountains and prairies to the hot and humid southland brought them sickness such as they had never known before. Many died. And there was little game for these people who were weaned and raised on buffalo meat. Near starvation was added to their other miseries. After a year or more of it several hundred desperate survivors started north with their families, back to the land of their birth. Troops were sent in from every direction, tried to stop them all along the way, but somehow these Indians fought through against tremendous odds, driving off the soldiers in several sharp engage-

ments, making one of the most remarkable marches of all time.

Upon reaching the Platte they divided, the main group, under Chief Little Wolf, working its way north toward Powder River, while some 150 weary men, women and children, led by Chief Dull Knife, started west toward their old agency, not knowing it had been discontinued.

They were home now, they would fight no more — so they thought. When Dull Knife's party met a detachment of troops commanded by a Captain Johnson of the Third Cavalry the Indians peacefully surrendered their ponies and rifles and were hauled to Fort Robinson in wagons.

All went well for a few months. At Fort Robinson Dull Knife's people were fed and sheltered and permitted to freely roam about the post and surrounding country side while the authorities were trying to decide what to do with them. But when one of the sub-chiefs, Bull Hump, left Fort Robinson and went to Pine Ridge in violation of orders, the rest were locked in barracks and placed under guard.

Next the Indians were told they would have to return to Indian territory. When they refused to budge, saying they would rather die, the commanding officer ordered their fuel, food and water shut off. After several days, half crazed by thirst, hunger and cold, the warriors, dressed in their finest and painted for battle, went about embracing each other

for the last time. When darkness settled the doomed little band burst from its quarters, rushed to a stream and drank, drank so deeply that many could hardly rise and stagger on into the bitter night. The aroused soldiers soon caught up with them, firing as they came. It must have been great sport. Sixty four men, women and children died in that night's slaughter. Those who escaped to the hills, helpless and unarmed, perished in the relentless cold. Came the dawn and wagons gathered up the frozen bodies. The surviving remnants of that hardy band were finally sent to the Pine Ridge agency. Those Cheyennes meant it when they said they would rather die on their native soil than again leave it. And die they did.

"Sat, Jan 11 — Chug. (Bordeaux). Not doing much. Lallee returned (from Little Bat's). Reports Bat in Hospital with jaw bone amputated. I have bad headache. Very high wind. Snow drifting.

"Mon, Jan 13 — Chug. Doing nothing. Men baling hay. Carroll went to see Chug Spring Ranch to rent it.

"Tues, Jan 14 — Chug. Baling hay. (Heck) Reel's men passed to Cheyenne. McKinrey workmen ditto. Sent (H.) Haas order on Stage Co. & bill for hard wood.

"Wed, Jan 15 — Chug. Baling hay. Rode down creek, saw many cattle all

looking badly. Lt. Pease, Gil, Collins, Hart, Wade & others here tonight. Ribbons bending and troublesome on (hay) press.

"Thurs, Jan 16 — Chug. Baling hay. Frank Prayger and others here tonight."

Hunton's guest Frank "Prayger" was probably one Frank Prager, a bachelor of the day who lived in a mountain cabin on the North Laramie and acquired fame as a spinner of tall tales — quite possibly true ones — concerning his Indian fights and hunting adventures. The Fank Prager Ranch of later years was located near the base of Eagle Peak.

"Fri, Jan 17 — Chug. (Bordeaux). Baling hay. Tracy and Curly Jim nooned here. St. Dennis here for hay, got three tons. Have bad cold and troubled with my heart, feeling very badly all day.

"Sat, Jan 18 — Chug. Baling hay. Curly Coleman here for hay."

Occasionally one is almost tempted to speak rather sharply to Mr. Hunton for failing to identify some of his friends and customers at old Bordeaux with greater precision. Example — from the two above entries it appears likely that "Curly Jim" and "Curly Coleman" are the same man, but one cannot say so definitely, without risking the possibility that some helpful character will turn up and prove that one is surmising through one's hat, as helpful characters have a way of doing from time to time if one isn't careful in this

kind of work. However, at about this time, a man named Curly Coleman was proprietor of the notorious Six Mile Ranch near Fort Laramie, according to that excellent authority, Mrs. Agnes Wright Spring in her "Cheyenne and Black Hills Stage Routes".

"Sun, Jan 19 — Chug. (Bordeaux). Sold Coleman small haystack at Bullock place for \$8.25 pr. ton in stack. Via passed to Cheyenne. William, Callaher & others here tonight.

"Mon, Jan 20 — Chug. Dan (Titus) quite sick. Brewster & Warner & Hall, Posey Ryan & teams here. Sent Clark to Bullock place to measure hay for Coleman.

"Tues, Jan 21 — Chug. Fifth Cavalry passed, Capt. Ferris in command. Sold them 6,900 lbs. hay delivered at Chug Springs. Dan better. Clark returned from Bullock place after delivering Coleman 16 tons hay. Gordon here tonight.

"Wed, Jan 22 — Chug. Hauling wood. Killed pig. LaParelle ranch man here tonight. Fixing to start to Box Elder.

"Thurs, Jan 23 — Started to Box Elder. Dan Titus with me. Nooned at Gordons. Met Charly Wild going to Cheyenne with two teams.

"Fri, Jan 24 — Staid at (Tobe) Milers (on Cottonwood Creek) last night.

Nooned 'Horse Shoe Hill'. Met Kellaher bull outfit on 'Elk Horn'.

"Sat, Jan 25 — LaBontee last night. Nooned at Powell's. Got to Ranch 4 P. M. Everything all right. More work done than I had thought to find. Bat (Garnier) out hunting with Capt. Coats."

This is the first word about Little Bat since Lallee's doleful report that he was in the hospital with his "jaw bone amputated" (See January 11). The redoubtable Baptiste must have made a remarkable recovery, or maybe it wasn't as serious as Lallee thought.

"Sun, Jan 26 — Box Elder. Hunting party passed going to Post (Fetterman). Left one elk.

"Tues, Jan 28 — Box Elder. Working on Shop. Went to Post in wagon. (George) Drake with me. Quartermaster & Murphy out hunting.

"Wed, Jan 29 — Fort Fetterman last night. Got lot of sacks of Post Treasurer & went to Box Elder. Work on Shop.

"Thurs, Jan 30 — Box Elder. Covered Shop. Night, wind N.E., snowing fast.

"Fri, Jan 31 — Box Elder. Made Forge and work bench. 8 in. snow on ground. Bat here and got Cant hook. Many work and stock cattle reported dead on range. Severe cold month. Snowed all night."

John Hunton's business in January 1879 was hardly worth mentioning. \$27 from his bar at Bordeaux and \$7 from Capt. Gillis for hay. His expenses were trifling too, \$28.95. He gave Mollie Hall \$10, Lallee \$5, and William Bullock, Jr. \$2. It cost him \$1 when he "nooned" at Gordon's place and \$2.50 for his over night stay with Tobe Miller on Cottonwood. Those sacks he got from the Fetterman "post treasurer" were \$4.70. \$1.50 went for nails, 50 cents for glass and he bought a broom for 75 cents.

FEBRUARY, 1879

"Sat, Feb 1 — Box Elder. Work on Shop. Finishing forge & bench.

"Sun, Feb 2 — Box Elder. Berry went to Fort (Fetterman) for mail. Bat brought 2 bridge logs. Hornbeck, Boyd and others passed hunting work cattle and report seeing many dead range cattle. Shorty come to Ranch with Jim Berry. Letters from Bill Waln & others."

Maybe John Hunton's Jim Berry was not the outlaw Jim Berry after all, at least Mr. Hunton does not seem suspicious. On the other hand it is possible, we suppose, that Outlaw Jim Berry could have been just a good, reliable hand — the kind you would trust with the grocery money and send after the mail — when he was not off on one of those stage-rob-

bing, train-holduping binges of his. It is a tantalizing point. perhaps impossible to prove one way or the other at this late date.

Mrs. C. C. Morton of Oakland, California, thinks there must have been two Jim Berrys and gives information concerning one who doesn't sound very outlawish, as follows:

"There evidently were two Jim Burys (spelled both Berry and Bury) around Fort Fetterman. One Jim Bury, who was a freighter in and around Fetterman, built the first rooming house in Douglas in 1886 and also the Bury Opera House, which served as a place for all town meetings, shows, etc for many years after the town was started. My father (the late George H. Cross) and mother knew them well and always stayed there when they went to town in pioneer days.

"The Bury House was right next to Frenchy Olivereau's Lafayette restaurant. I remember as a very small kid staying there all night with my mother.

"Jim came to Fort Fetterman in the '60s, where he was a civilian employee for a time."

"Mon, Feb 3 — Box Elder. Sent Mike with team to Fryer's Shop for wagons. Shorty here today. Finished shop except for door. Sam Groves here tonight. 4 P.M. snowing.

"Tues, Feb 4 — Box Elder. Sam (Groves) & Shorty left.

"Wed, Feb 5 — Box Elder. Two

teams went for wood. Finished light wagon. Worked on new wagon & bridge. Bat (Garnier) brought 3 logs for bridge.

"Fri, Feb 7—Box Elder. Worked on wagon. Repaired old Schutler wagon. Team logging.

"Sat, Feb 8 — Box Elder. Working on wagon. Teams went to sawmill with logs. Tom & George (Drake) went to Post (Fetterman) in light wagon. Got mail — 3 papers. Badly disappointed in Dan's (Titus) capacity to do blacksmith work.

"Sun, Feb 9 — Box Elder. Fixed wagons to haul logs on. (George) Via & Pard passed. Ed Smith here short time. Bathed and put on clean clothes.

"Mon, Feb 10 — Box Elder. Working on wagon. Teams loaded logs. Baptiste (Garnier) hauling logs.

"Tues, Feb 11 — Box Elder. Finished ironing running gears of wagon. Teams went to Sawmill. John (Boyd) & (Robert) Fryer here tonight. Clear, windy, cold.

"Wed, Feb 12 — Box Elder. Dan (Titus) shod Bat (Garnier) horses. Made fire dogs. Straightened John Boyd's a-c, owe him between 600 & 700 dollars. Teams loaded logs. 8 P.M. snowing fast."

A "firedog" in case you do not happen to know is "a metal support for wood or logs in

a fire place; and iron", according to Mr. Webster.

"Thurs, Feb 13 — Box Elder. Dan (Titus) making wagon tongue for Bat (Garnier). Teams to saw mill. Went to Fort Fetterman via Laceys Coal Mine and got three sacks coal to try. (Robert) Fryer with me. A.M. heavy snow, calm P.M., clear, cold.

"Fri, Feb 14 — Ft. Fetterman. Tire broke on wagon, repaired by Tally. Put horses in Cavalry stable.

"Sat, Feb 15 — Fort Fetterman. Teams in with logs and took home plank. Sawing lumber at mill. (George) Powell and (Heck) Reel returned from (Fort) McKinney. Powell bought Reel's outfit. Went to Box Elder & took 675 cotton sacks. A.M. nice, warm. 7 P.M. Snowing.

"Sun, Feb 16 — Box Elder. Found Capt. Akers bull dead. Fixed to start mule team to Chug. Wolcott's men here tonight.

"Mon, Feb 17 — B. E. (Box Elder). Mike & Bat started to Chug. Dan (Titus) hauled load saw dust. Tom, Jim & I drove cattle from around the Fort (Fetterman), found some dead cattle and all stock very poor, did not see any fit for beef in lot of over 400.

"Tues, Feb 18 — B. E. George Drake started to Chug in light wagon with

Sam's mares, Goose & Frank. Sent S. P. (Stebbins Post) & Co. \$100. Dan (Titus) shod Dave & Rondo. Made doors for Shop.

"Wed, Feb 19 — B. E. Put stringers on bridge. Wolcott's 4 men here tonight. Nicest day this year so far.

"Thurs, Feb 20 — B. E. Hung shop doors. (Jim) Berry went to Sawmill for dust to put on ice. Working on wagon box."

From February 21 to 24th all Mr. Hunton did at his Box Elder ranch was work on his wagon box, haul wood and "repaired old arm chair".

"Mon, Feb 24 — B. E. Finished wagon box and done other work on wagons. Work on house. Men all sick with catarrh.

"Tues, Feb 25 — B. E. Worked on wagon brake. Jim bottomed chair. Sharpened pick & crowbar for McMillan. Frank Lacy arrested and taken to Laramie City.

"Wed, Feb 26 — B. E. Work on brake and painted bed. Jim Berry went to Post (Fetterman) for lumber. Got letters from E. Nagle, Lisa (?), Tom & Mollie H. (Hall), Stebbins Post & Co. with notes to renew. Creek all free of ice, Platte nearly so.

"Thurs, Feb 27 — B. E. Covered house and other work about it. Am suf-

fering with rheumatism in left shoulder and with heart disease. All the men have very bad colds and catarrh.

"Fri, Feb 28 — B. E. Work on wagon and house. (Jim) Berry went to Post (Fetterman) for lumber."

On the February "Cash Account" page in the back of his diary for 1879, John Hunton entered the following memorandum:

"John Boyd a-c at Chug Ranch, \$1002.50, charged on Box Elder account book."

This indicates that Mr. Hunton is now keeping at least two accounts — one, in the back of his diary, presumably covering his personal and Bordeaux ranch affairs; the other on business connected with his Box Elder ranch, closer to Fort Fetterman, which is now the main headquarters of his beef herd. Since we do not have his "Box Elder a-c Book" it must be assumed that the complete picture of Mr. Hunton's business and financial affairs for 1879 will not be reflected herein.

The only receipts recorded in his diary account for February are \$62.50 from E. Tillotson and \$250 from W. H. Murphy. Some of his recorded expenditures include: James Berry \$10, John Boyd \$25, George Drake \$10, Baptiste Garnier \$75, sacks \$20.25, window sash \$3.00, setting hen \$1.50, Stebbins Post & Co. \$100, and a few dollars for such luxury items as drinks, cigars, nuts and raisins.

MARCH, 1879

"Sat, Mar 1 — B. E. (Box Elder). Completed wagon & house, all but hanging door.

"Sun, Mar 2 — B. E. Went to Mormon Knoll (?). Nick & Frank arrived with hay & corn. Killed a white deer today. Powell's train passed loaded with wood. Saw large number of cattle, some looking well, majority looking bad.

"Tues, Mar 4 — B. E. Work on wagons. Mike & Browning started to Chug. Berry hauled lumber. Tom digging post holes. Powell's train passed for wood. (N.) Kipp here tonight. Wrote to Nagle, S. P. (Stebbins Post) & Co., E. U. Snider and Tom Hunton.

"Wed, Mar 5 — B. E. Hunting beef for Kipp. Found none.

"Thurs, Mar 6 — B. E. Hunting beef, found and put three in slaughter house (2 cows, one steer).

"Sat, Mar 8 — B. E. Working on wagons. Making corrall. Wolcott's men here last night. Powell's wood train passed for Fort. Maj. Mason took command of Fort Fetterman.

"Mon, Mar 10 — B. E. Working on wagons & corrall. (N.) Kipp brought me telegram from (John) Owens wanting to trade me his Ranch for 54 tons hay delivered at Fort Robinson. Offered him 54 tons hay baled on Laramie River

and 550\$ 1st December next for the place.

"Tues, Mar 11 — B. E. Working on wagons. Cutting sage brush. Baptiste (Garnier) come, brought hard wood. Wood not such as ordered.

"Wed, Mar 12 — B. E. Working on wagons. Tom & Jim building corral at Mexican Bend. Powell's train passed to Fort.

"Thurs, Mar 13 — B. E. Finished mess wagon. Commenced charcoal pit. Telegram from (John) Owens wanting me to deliver hay to Camp Robinson at 29\$ pr ton. Declined. Men still at Mex. Bend. Letter from Q.M. Ft. Fetterman wanting charcoal. Chico & Durant dined here.

"Fri, Mar 14 — B. E. Wrote to Cave, Tip, Bill Waln, Mollie Hall & others. Dan (Titus) working on coal pit. Rode to mouth of B. E. (Box Elder). Saw 10 dead cattle, 3 of them L. D. Tom and Jim (Berry) returned, corral finished.

"Sat, Mar 15 — B. E. Men working on coal pit. Fixing Bat's account. Mike arrived with hay & grain. Coal pit ready to fire.

Sun, Mar 16 — B. E. Fired coal pit and Dan (Titus) & I attended to it.

"Mon, Mar 17 — B. E. Teams went for bridge timber. Repaired wagon boxes. Watched coal pit and other odd jobs.

(George) Powell's train passed to Post (Fetterman).

"Tues, Mar 18 — B. E. Teams hauling bridge timber. Went to Baptiste's (Little Bat Garnier's). Working on bridge. Made level table etc. Watched coal pit. Nice night, nice day.

"Wed, Mar 19 — B. E. (Box Elder). Teams hauling bridge timber. Worked on bridge. Killed out fire in coal pit. Storming in the hills.

"Fri, Mar 21 — B. E. Working on bridge. Took posts to dry creek corral.

"Sat, Mar 22 — B. E. Hauled poles and posts to 'Dry Creek' corral. Put sills on bridge.

"Sun, Mar 23 — B. E. Went to Fort (Fetterman) for mail. Kipp had gone to Ranch with it. Mail contractor bursted up and drawn off Govt. carrying mail. (N.) Kipp wants beef. Letters from Nagle, Sherman, S. P. & Co. & others.

"Mon, Mar 24 — B. E. Preparing to go for posts. Tom & Kipp drove two cows for beef. Mitch Seminole & Ed passed. Powell's train passed to Fort.

"Tues, Mar 25 — B. E. Took team and men to pole camp in 2nd range near Maj. Wolcott's poles. Tom & (Jim) Berry went to make corral on dry creek. Great deal of snow in all the gulches and on 2nd range."

Maj. Frank Wolcott, according to pio-

neer Historian John Clay, was the first man to conceive that reckless idea which eventually led to what is known as the "Johnson County War" of 1892, and he was also a leader in the planning and execution of that fantastic episode.

"Wed, Mar 26 — Pole Camp. Dan (Titus) & Mike cutting poles. Rode to Deer Creek and to 1st range to get meat. Killed one deer and two mountain grouse. Much snow to be seen on Powder River & Big Horn mountains from top of 1st Range at Deer Creek.

"Thurs, Mar 27 — Pole Camp. Cutting & parking poles.

"Fri, Mar 28 — Pole Camp. A.M. all hands doing nothing. P.M. Dan & Mike cutting poles. Rode out towards Deer Creek. Very windy.

"Sat, Mar 29 — Pole Camp. Cutting and parking poles. Went to McMillan's camp in canon east of this where he is burning Char Coal for Govt. at 30 cts pr bu.

"Sun, Mar 30 — Pole Camp. Cutting & parking. Horse got loose and left. Went to top of mountain near camp. Could see the 'Big Horn,' 'Powder River' ranges of mountains & Pumpkin Buttes. Nice day.

"Mon, Mar 31 — Pole Camp. Done nothing today on account of snow. Snowed nearly all day."

The only receipts Mr. Hunton shows for March, 1879, are \$33.05 from C. J. Flagothier (the Frenchman at LaBonte crossing) and \$3 for tobacco. His expenditures: F. P. Browning \$5, George Boswell \$50, cigars \$1 and \$30 for ox yokes.

APRIL, 1879

"Tues, Apr 1 — Pole Camp. Went to Box Elder with Mike with load of poles for calf corral. Road very soft and had to unload twice. Nice day.

"Wed, Apr 2 — B. E. (Box Elder). Mule & horse teams went for poles. Work on calf corral and laid out ditch.

"Thurs, Apr 3 — B. E. Went to Post (Fetterman). Got paper mail, no letters. Telegram from Geo. Drake that he had gone to work for Stage Company. Contracts advertised for wood & hay and freight.

"Fri, Apr 4 — At Fort (Fetterman) last night. Went to Box Elder. Finished laying out ditch. Teams returned with poles.

"Sat, Apr 5 — B. E. Teams went for poles. Worked on corral. P. M. started to Chug (Bordeaux), went as far as Post (Fetterman). (E.) Tillotson arrived. Mail ditto. Powell's Co. 4th Infy. will arrive tomorrow. Rained all afternoon."

The "Powell" in command of that above company of 4th Infantry may have been Captain James Powell, hero of the famous Wagon Box Fight near Fort Phil Kearney some twelve years earlier, in 1867. On that occasion Capt. Powell and thirty two men, armed with the new breech loading rifles, barricaded themselves within a wagon box corral and inflicted stunning defeat on a large attacking force of Indians under Red Cloud. It was a blow to the prestige and power of that great chief from which he never recovered.

"Sun, Apr 6 — Post (Fetterman) last night. Nooned at LaBontee. Got to Horse Shoe at sundown. Road muddy.

"Mon, Apr 7 — Horse Shoe last night. Nooned at (F. M.) Phillips. Got him to sign lot of vouchers in blank for me. Got home (Bordeaux) at sunset. Everything all right. Mr. (W. G.) Bullock at Ranch.

"Wed, Apr 9 — Bordeaux. Tom & L. (Lallee) went to Baptiste's (Little Bat's). Men making wire fence.

"Thurs, Apr 10 — Bordeaux. Jim Lane here last night on way to Cheyenne. Making wire fence. Tom & L. (Lallee) returned. Sam Groves here last night with bulls on way to Fetterman.

"Fri, Apr 11 — Bordeaux. Traded John Owens 75 tons baled hay and 15 Texas steers for his place on Chug. Started to Cheyenne. Let Ed Smith have light

wagon & horses to go to (Fort) Fetterman. D. H. on stage to Cheyenne.

"Sat, Apr 12 — Cheyenne. Arrived here last night. Fixed and forwarded bids for (Hi) Kelly on (Fort) McKinney beef. Ordered of (H.) Haas eight $3\frac{3}{4}$ wagons. Telegraphed Snider about money. Borrowed \$100 of Stebbins Post & Co., 60 days. Wrote (N.) Kipp would go on his bond for beef. Got ticket to Omaha of S. P. (Stebbins Post) & Co. for \$25.

"Sun, Apr 13 — Cheyenne. Left for Omaha. Met with McKann, Pratt, Lane and Mr. John Stewart of Council Bluff and G. Q. Cannon of Salt Lake. Rained all last night.

"Mon, Apr 14 — On train and arrived at Omaha on time. Met W. P. Noble."

The above W. P. Noble may have been Worden Noble, a bookkeeper who came to Wyoming Territory from New York in 1866, and in 1868 opened a store in South Pass City. He later went into the cattle business and in September 1878 five men held up his cow camp on Lander Creek, tied up his herders and made off with some fourteen horses, saddles, blankets, guns, ammunition, the camp's store of food and other supplies. Today the Noble hotel, beautifully furnished throughout in the Indian motif, stands in the city of Lander, bordering on the present Shoshone-Arapahoe Indian reservation.

"Tues, Apr 15 — Omaha. Went to

Fort. Bids for transportation opened and H. Wagner way below everybody."

Mrs. Trenholm's "Footprints on the Frontier" records that a man named Henry Wagner opened the first dry goods store in Laramie, presumably about the time Wyoming's present university city sprang into life with a boom almost overnight when the first railroad train came puffing over Sherman Hill in May, 1868.

"Wed, Apr 16 — Omaha. Loafing round not doing much. Made out my bids for hay, wood, charcoal for (Forts) Laramie, Fetterman, McKinney & hay for (Fort) Robinson (Nebraska). McCormick, Sidney freighter, shot last night.

"Thurs. Apr 17 — Omaha. Went to Post. Bid on supplies. Lowest on wood & hay at (Fort) Fetterman.

"Fri, Apr 18 — Omaha. Bought some iron etc.

"Sat, Apr 19 — Omaha. Started west. Met Bill Waln at Depot. Borrowed \$40 of Stephens & Wilcox and let him have. Enroute made acquaintance of Col. Bronson Mil. storekeeper, Col. Black of Montana, Col. Spates & others.

"Sun, Apr 20 — Cheyenne. Arrived here today. E. U. Snider here. Bill Waln with me."

In 1919 a Buffalo, Wyoming newspaper published certain memoirs of Lillian Hogerson Baker in which she recalled that, "E. U. Snyder

der had the first sutler store at Fort McKinney”.

Mrs. Baker was the daughter of J. O. Hogerson, a wheelwright, who came to Fort Fetterman in 1876. And here is her own story about the birth of twin girls (of which she happened to be one) at that historic frontier post on June 16, 1877:

“When the Hogerson twins arrived Dr. Huff, post physician, said, ‘This is my first case of twins.’ Mother replied, ‘My first case, too!’

“Everyone helped. The sergeant’s wife helped the doctor deliver. The only qualifications were kindness and helpfulness. An Irish girl of mysterious history, an apparent camp follower, acted as the nurse later. A captain’s wife furnished the baby clothes, having lost her own child. The twins were Lillian and Lulu. The parents were Norwegian and Swedish. The baptism was attended by soldiers, Indians and the doctor. Years later when the girls were graduated from high school they sent the doctor a card, explaining they were his twins of 1877.”

Times and methods change, but not human hearts.

“Mon, Apr 21 — Cheyenne. Letter from (N.) Kipp with \$250. Went to Govt. sale, bought 4 horses for \$272. (E. U.) Snider with me. Bought new wagon & harness. Rained nearly all day.

“Tues, Apr 22 — Cheyenne. Prepar-

ing to start home. Loaded wagon etc. Snider & Co. give me note for \$1050. Passed it to (E.) Nagle and took up my note. Rained all night and all day.

"Wed, Apr 23 — Cheyenne. Did not start home today on account of rain. Rained nearly all day.

"Thurs, Apr 24 — Cheyenne. Team started home. I started with Heck Reel. Got dinner at Fred Schwartz (on Lodgepole Creek).

"Fri, Apr 25 — Bordeaux. Staid at Bard's (on Little Bear) last night. Noon-ed at Frank Kellys. Got home 3½ P.M."

We are unable to explain Mr. Hunton's reference to "Frank" Kelly. Hiram B. (Hi) Kelly's ranch on Chugwater Creek was undoubtedly where he and Heck Reel "nooned" on that long past April day. Perhaps he was referring to some other member of Hi Kelly's family, or maybe John Hunton's pencil just slipped — we do not know.

"Sat, Apr 26 — Bordeaux. (Heck) Reel left this morning. Jones' man left with bull & heifer. Men digging post holes. Bill Waln left for (Fort) Fetterman with horses.

"Sun, Apr 27 — Bordeaux. Mr. (W. G.) Bullock went to Cheyenne with Maj. Drew. Ed Smith brought wagon home broken. Roundup here.

"Mon, Apr 28 — Bordeaux. Round-up here last night and went to Goshen's

hole. Col. Bacon with them. Went to (F. M.) Phillips with Colin Hunter.

"Tues, Apr 29 — Bordeaux. At Phillips last night. Went to Post (Fort Laramie). Bid on Ft. Robinson beef 9c (block) 7c (hoof). (Colin) Hunter lowest bidder on (Fort) Laramie beef 6.23 (block) 5.50 (hoof). Ward (Fort) Fetterman beef 8.25. (Hi) Kelly (Fort) McKinney beef 6.74 (block) 6.74 (hoof). Went home.

"Wed, Apr 30 — Bordeaux. Plowing garden and setting posts around middle field. (John) Owens went to roundup. Kate had colt. Dolly had calf."

The cash account in Mr. Hunton's diary for April, 1879 is not totaled and probably does not reflect all of his business. Most of the receipts listed have been mentioned in preceding entries. Following are typical examples of expenditures made during the month: cigars and figs \$2, supper-breakfast \$1.50, Lallee \$3, seeds \$3.50, wine \$10, Hotel Dyers \$4, sleeper \$4, cigars drinks etc \$5, buggy hire \$2, theatre \$2, hardware & iron \$84, hotel (Omaha) \$14.25, beads \$12, meals on R. R. \$3, book \$1.50, collars \$9 and harness \$95.

MAY, 1879

"Thurs, May 1 — Bordeaux. Making wire fence east of Chug. May working in garden. Thorp & Dave passed to Deadwood with horses. Parker's Govt. train passed to Fort Laramie, drew hay."

The name "Thorp" has been closely woven into Wyoming history for more than three quarters of a century. Russell Thorp was one of the founders and operators of the first stage line from Cheyenne to the Black Hills. He was a dealer in fine horses and mules which he sold and trailed not only north through hostile Indian country into the Black Hills of the Dakota territory but also as far south as Leadville, Colorado.

He mined and sold coal to the Union Pacific railroad in the '60s and operated a store and livery stable in southwestern Wyoming where, at the age of twenty three, he was appointed to the first board of commissioners of Uinta country by territorial Governor John D. Campbell.

In 1882, Mr. Thorp purchased the Adkins ranch in Raw Hide Buttes, complete with blacksmith shop, general store, stage coach stop with ample road ranch accommodations for travelers, post office and telegraph service. It continued to be his home and headquarters for many years. It would take pages to even summarize all the activities of this pioneer. He was killed in a runaway at Lusk, Wyoming on

September 8, 1898, at the age of fifty two.

His son, Russell Thorp, Jr., carried on where the father left off. He could, and did, drive a four horse stage coach at the age of fourteen. In later life he was secretary of the Wyoming Stock Growers Association for many years. Perhaps no other one man has ever done more to preserve the traditions and history of Wyoming pioneer days than Russell Thorp, Jr.

"Fri, May 2 — Bordeaux. Making wire fence. Mr. Frewen here last night going to Powder River. Clay's train passed for Deadwood. Ground getting dry. Rain wanted."

Moreton and Dick Frewen were British sportsmen of considerable means who first came to Wyoming on a hunting trip in 1876 — and remained to organize the Powder River Cattle Company. On that fabled stream they built a luxurious establishment which was known far and wide during the high-flying '80s as "Frewen's Castle". And there these gentlemen lavishly entertained the elite of Wyoming society as well as lords and ladies from oversea for weeks on end. But they too went broke in the great crash of '87 and returned to England. The story is told that during those fulsome days Moreton Frewen once shot a buffalo from his front steps. Some twenty years later a friend wrote that his castle was gone — but the skull of that buffalo was still there.

"Sun, May 4 — Bordeaux. Went to

(Hi) Kellys. L. (Lallee) with me. Doty got on Creek with roundup. Went home.

"Mon, May 5 — Bordeaux. Making fence and bars. Lane got here with roundup, found No. 8 O's. Large crop of calves. Planting potatoes.

"Wed, May 7 — Bordeaux. Roundup finished work here and all went home. (Hi) Kelly here. Working on ditch and fence. (John) Owens branded some calves and turned cattle in field."

ORIGINAL LOG CABIN AT BORDEAUX



We are indebted to Agnes Wright Spring, Colorado State Historian and author of numerous historical works, for this rare print of one of the original log cabins at Old Bordeaux. Mrs. Spring advises it was obtained from a copy of the *Midwest Review*, published by the Midwest Oil Company and edited by the late Dan Greenburg back in the 1920's. The orig-

inal roof of this structure was probably made of poles or rough plank and covered with earth. Nothing remains today of this or other structures of the first trading post at Bordeaux.

"Fri, May 9 — Bordeaux. Working on ditch and fence. Wiedman here last night enroute to Pow. (Powder) River. Mike & Dan come. Owen's bull outfit come. Swartz (Schwartz) team come with freight.

"Sat, May 10 — Bordeaux. Working on ditches. Shod Jim & Bud. Owen's train loaded and left. Blacksmith come. Borrowed \$625.88 of A. B. Clark payable on demand.

"Sun, May 11 — Bordeaux. Preparing to go to (Fort) Fetterman.

"Mon, May 12 — Bordeaux. Blacksmithing etc. Emmons and party & Perry Organ passed. Did not start to Fetterman on account of weather. Raining nearly all day.

"Tues, May 13 — Bordeaux. Teams started to (Fort) Fetterman. Cleaning up stables etc.

"Wed, May 14 — Bordeaux. Started to (Fort) Fetterman. Saw Walker & Irwine on Cottonwood working cattle.

"Thurs, May 15 — Cottonwood. Here last night. Overtook teams on Elk Horn. Mike sick. Killed deer.

"Fri, May 16 — Graham's Ranch. Here last night. (Clint) Graham and

others leave this morning for lower roundup. Got to (Fort) Fetterman at noon.

"Sat, May 17 — Fort Fetterman. Here last night. Col. Mason give me permission to herd all stock off hay bottoms above the post. Went to Box Elder. Offered McMillan 6.50 to put in 1000 cords wood.

"Sun, May 18 — Box Elder. Preparing to start men on roundup. Roundup party here today. Bill (Waln) went to Post (Fetterman).

"Mon, May 19 — Box Elder. Tom (Hunton), Jim (Berry) & Bill (Waln) started on roundup. Bob Waln driving team and cooking. Roundup party crossed the River (N. Platte). Mike and Dan (Titus) started to Rock Creek.

"Tues, May 20 — Fort Fetterman. Staid here with (W. H.) Murphy last night. Went to roundup at Bushnells and back to Post. Dr. Hoff (Huff) with me.

"Wed, May 21 — Fort Fetterman. Went to Box Elder and drove all cattle on the river above Box Elder. (George) McMillan and (L. P.) Justy with me. Telegram from (H) Haas wagons have arrived. (See April 12 entry). Wrote to have them at Rock Creek by 10th of June.

"Thurs, May 22 — Box Elder. Went to Deer Creek. Found many cattle on the hay bottoms. Ground very dry and grass not at all promising for hay.

"Fri, May 23 — Box Elder. Sent (L. P.) Justy to Deer Creek. Working in shop. Bill Waln come, found one ox on north side of the Platte. Ironed yokes. 3 bull whackers come. Dry & windy.

"Sat, May 24 — Box Elder. Working in shop. Bill (Waln) looking up work cattle. Jim (Berry), (L. P.) Justy come from (Maj. Frank) Wolcotts and report many cattle on hay bottoms. Shod little sorrel horse.

"Sun, May 25 — Box Elder. Bill (Waln) & Elam went to Deer Creek. Justy & Dunk went to Post. Mike & Dan (Titus) arrived. Recd letters from Hecht & others.

"Mon, May 26 — Box Elder. Working on wagons. Bill (Waln) hunting cattle. Wrote to Hecht, Chief Q. M. & others. Bull whackers went into camp above field."

May 27, 28 and 29 Mr. Hunton devoted exclusively to work on his dam and wagons, painting the boxes and apparently getting all set to start large scale freighting operations.

"Fri, May 30 — Box Elder. Working on wagons & dam. Went to Post (Fetterman), took timber to (Robert) Fryer to build wagon. Jim (Berry) drove the team.

"Sat, May 31 — Box Elder. At Post (Fetterman) last night. Co. I, 3 Cav. will leave tomorrow. Bargained with Geo.

McMillan to let him put in 400 cords wood on Contract. (See May 17 entry). Necked two young steers. Letters from Haas about machines & wagons."

In his diary account Mr. Hunton recorded the following receipts for May, 1879: A. B. Clark \$625.88; Stebbins Post & Co. \$125.88; \$100 and \$33.50, and Murphy \$250. His expenditures included: Tom Hunton \$84.88; Stebbins Post & Co. \$625.88; Jim Berry \$7; John Boyd \$40; Tom Mathews \$50; Baptiste Garnier \$17.50; expense freight etc \$60; exp. buckskins \$6 and W. J. Broatch \$33.50.

Although Mr. Hunton does not say so, the following memorandum is probably the list and valuation of cattle he reported for taxation in Albany county:

25	3-yr old steers	-	\$23	-	\$ 575.00
75	Cows	- - -	22	-	1650.00
25	2-yr old steers	-	16	-	400.00
25	yearling steers and				
25	" heifers	-	12	-	600.00

JUNE, 1879

"Mon, June 2 — Box Elder. Went to Post (Fetterman). Both roundups there. Swam cattle across river and drove them to Box Elder. Mike & Jim fixing gulch 1½ miles west of Post.

"Tues, June 3 — Box Elder. Round-up arrived with cattle gathered between

here and Laparelle. Branded calves etc.

"Wed, June 4 — Box Elder. Roundup gathered cattle between here & Deer Creek. Branded calves & left. Got 37 steers from Bronson and let him have 23 bulls. Lallee & Jesse (probably Lallee's sister and one of Speed Stagner's squaws) come & went to Bats (Little Bat Garnier).

"Thurs, June 5 — Box Elder. Necked cattle bought of Bronson. Sold 5 yoke of them to (George) McMillan and 3 yoke to Bill Waln. Blacksmith sick & not working.

"Fri, June 6 — Box Elder. Found all the young cattle and 72 head of the old work cattle. Finished painting wagon. Overhauled ice. Mike & Jim went for poles. Blksmith sick. Made settlement with Baptiste (Garnier), he owes me \$154.

"Sat, June 7 — Box Elder. Dan (Titus) and I working on (Bill) Waln's wagons. Found all young cattle. Put wagon boxes on. Mike & Jim come with poles. Bat and others went to Post (Fetterman).

"Sun, June 8 — Box Elder. Sent Elam to roundup.

"Mon, June 9 — Box Elder. Working in Shop. Blksmith well and at work. Started Dan & Mike to Rock Creek.

"Tues, June 10 — Box Elder. Work-

ing in Shop. Lind roundup here. Men worked on dam. Bought Lord & Smith ox train of 50 yoke cattle and 15 wagons for \$5000.

"Wed, June 11 — Box Elder. Moved Lord & Smith outfit to Box Elder. Went to Post (Fetterman). Telegraphed Hecht did not want his cattle; Thay (probably former Governor John M. Thayer) that I wanted 175,000 lbs. freight."

Charles Hecht was one of the big bull train operators, sometimes called the "boss freighter" of this period. In the fall of 1879 Mr. Hecht bought the Hat Creek ranch and stage station from Jack Bowman, including some 400 head of cattle. It cost him about \$10,000. And the funny thing about it is that the Hat Creek ranch and stage station isn't on Hat Creek at all, but on Sage Creek. It happened like this, according to Agnes Wright Spring in her "Cheyenne and Back Hills Stage Routes": in 1875 some soldiers were sent from Fort Laramie to establish an outpost on Hat Creek in Western Nebraska. They got mixed up somehow and established their post some thirty miles too far west, on Sage Creek in eastern Wyoming, instead. But they named their camp "Hat Creek" regardless, and the name still sticks to this day.

Thurs, June 12 — Box Elder. Working on yokes etc and getting ready to start trains. Elam & (Bill) Waln returned

from Walker roundup without any work cattle.

"Fri, June 13 — Box Elder. Train started at noon. Out 4 head young cattle. Put tire on light wagon.

"Sat, June 14 — Box Elder. Making brake irons for hay racks.

"Sun, June 15 — Box Elder. Give men instructions what to do during my absence and started to Rock Creek horseback. Got to Ward's ranch about sunset. Nice day but very dry and warm.

"Mon, June 16 — Ward's Ranch last night. Met Dan and Mike and told them what to do. Overtook train near head of North Laramie.

"Tues, June 17 — Staid with train last night 20 miles from Rock Creek. Went to Rock Creek for breakfast. Train got there about 5 P. M. Haas here tonight. Dave Lord come in with me.

"Wed, June 18 — Rock Creek. Loaded train, 12,000 lbs. to team, mostly grain.

"Thurs, June 19 — Rock Creek. Train starts today. Went to Cheyenne. Saw Mrs. Bullock who is sick. Mr. (W. G.) Bullock gone to Ranch.

"Fri, June 20 — Cheyenne. Borrowed \$500 from Stebbins Post & Co. Settled with Haas, give him my note for the wagons etc. payable Sept. 5th.

"Sat, June 21 — Cheyenne. Went to

Bordeaux on Coach. Met (Heck) Reel & (T. A.) Kent going to Roundup. Roundups all over. Saw (John) Owens, Bronson, etc. Hot & dry.

"Sun, June 22 — Bordeaux. Mr. Bullock went to town on Mail Wagon. Thermometer 96 in house.

"Mon, June 23 — Bordeaux. Housing bales today. Branded 11 calves, 4 SO, one ICC, six 16SO. Charly Brown here. Schwartz team come with freight. Thermometer 98 in house.

"Tues, June 24 — Bordeaux. Ricking baled hay. Bought steer of Charly Brown (Brown & Yates) for \$20. Brown left on way to Montana to meet his father. Wulfjen passed looking out for cattle range. Thermometer 99 in house, 118 in sun.

"Wed, June 25 — Bordeaux. Started to (Fort) Fetterman, light wagon, Baptiste's (Garnier) horses, half breed boy Frank. Nooned on Cottonwood and was joined by Charly Brown. Stopped for night on Horse Shoe. Saw large panther.

"Thurs, June 26 — Horse Shoe last night. Collected 30 dollars of Flaggother in full for machine. Got to Fetterman. Signed contracts & bonds and sent them to Mr. (W. G.) Bullock to execute and send to Chief Q.M.

'Fri, June 27 — Box Elder. Staid at Old Shop last night, got here 10 A.M.

Lind gathering cattle here. Tom & Jim working with him. Teams after rack poles.

"Sat, June 28 — Box Elder. Gathered cattle on dry creek. Lind took about 1600 CY's above. Got two of the Lord & Smith steers. Bill Waln come to Ranch. Wagons been breaking on him."

"CY" is still the registered brand of Joseph M. Carey in Laramie and Converse counties (1946 Wyoming Brand Book). It is probably safe to assume that the "1600 CY's" moved above by Mr. Lind were part of the early Carey herd on Box Elder.

"Sun, June 29 — Box Elder. Went to train. Took 3 head oxen and some chains. Sent Berry to look for Jim horse, found him on LaParelle. Stopped water in ditch, caught fish. Making hay racks.

"Mon, June 30 — Box Elder. Went to Post (Fetterman). Train crossed river without any trouble. Returned to ranch. Pole teams come. Making racks."

In June 1879 most of John Hunton's recorded receipts appear to have been loans. He received \$166.50 and \$500 from Stebbins Post & Co. and \$800 from W. H. Murphy. He also took in \$16 for blacksmithing, \$27 from Wm. Williams and \$30 from C. J. Flaggothier, the Frenchman at LaBonte crossing.

Following are some of his typical expenditures: ferry \$2; Lallee \$10; Jesse \$2.20; Baptiste Garnier \$6, Mitch Seminole \$5;

(Dan) Titus \$18; Thayer for Fryer \$47.90; stage fare \$6.50; boots \$9; Trotting Association \$25; Daily Leader \$10; 2 slickers \$9.50; 2 Pr. blankets \$8; George Drake \$50; Brown & Yates for steer \$20; W. I. (or J.) Broatch \$15.25; Tom Hunton \$10; Bill Waln \$60 and about \$10 for drinks and cigars.

JULY, 1879

"Tues, July 1 — Box Elder. Making racks. Teams went to Ward's ranch for freight left there by bull outfit. Settled with Tom Mathews to date.

"Thurs, July 3 — Box Elder. Making racks. Teams returned with freight.

"Fri, July 4 — Box Elder. Making racks. Sent (Robert) Fryer's freight to him. Got mail, no letters.

"Sun, July 6 — Box Elder. Started Mike (Handly) to Rock Creek for tire & coal. Went to Post (Fetterman), returned. Told (E.) Tillotson about the E. U. Snider & Co. note. He was mad about it and wanted me to bring suit.

"Mon, July 7 — Box Elder. Commenced cutting hay here. Let Col. Mason have a cow. Made Go Devil. Alcide Bonnisse here last night."

That "go devil" Mr. Hunton made was probably a kind of sled used in logging operations. It could also have been a V shaped implement with a sharp iron nose, sometimes

called an "A", used for digging and cleaning small irrigation ditches and laterals.

"Tues, July 8 — Box Elder. Made hay rack for horse wagon. Cutting hay $\frac{1}{2}$ day. Baptiste (Little Bat) went below to cut on Officer's (hay) bottoms. Loaded hay to take to Post (Fetterman). Thermometer 100 shade, 130 sun.

"Wed, July 9 — Box Elder. Went to Post. Took 2 loads hay in on contract (3 tons, 100 lbs.). Looked at Taylor's herd with him.

"Thurs, July 10 — At Post (Fetterman) last night. Bought Taylor's lame cattle. Col. Mason & family returned. Hired two men to work in hay. Heard of one of Irvin's men being killed at Ft. Laramie.

"Fri, July 11—At Post last night. Was notified by Q.M. that 150 tons baled hay would be wanted. Proposed to bale more if Q.M. would furnish wire. Went to Box Elder. Cutting and stacking hay.

"Sat, July 12 — Box Elder. Went to Post (Fetterman), received and branded 26 lame cattle Mike (probably Mike Handly, see July expenditures) had to leave team and go to hospital in a critical condition.

"Sun, July 13 — At Post (Fetterman) last night. Dan (Titus) went to Rock Creek for team. Lame cattle scattered.

hunted LaParelle for them as far as (George) Powells. Sam Groves with me. Went to see Mike (Handly) who is still very sick. Went to Box Elder. Finished cutting hay at Box Elder.

"Mon, July 14 — Box Elder. Finished hauling and stacking hay at Ranch. Sent cutting outfit of two machines, rake, 4 horses, 1 mule, 5 men to Deer Creek. Very dry & hot.

"Tues, July 15 — Box Elder. Work in shop setting tires etc. Jim Berry returned from Roundup. Tom Mathews went to Post (Fetterman) for mail. Letters from Mr. (W. G.) Bullock and Tom Hunton. Mrs. Bullock not expected to live.

"Wed, July 16 — Box Elder. Working on trail wagons etc. Am quite unwell.. (George) McMillan's outfit doing repairing, he has comcd hauling wood.

"Thurs, July 17 — Box Elder. No one doing much. Kept in doors all day, not well. Paid McGuire for ox yokes. Signed joint note with George McMillan to Jas. McGuire for \$630 payable 1st Oct.

"Fri, July 18 — Box Elder. Went to Deer Creek where men were cutting hay. Cattle have destroyed nearly all hay on Deer Creek. (Maj. Frank) Wolcott has cut some hay. Very dry & hot.

"Sat, July 19 — Box Elder. Repaired rake for Bronson. Went to Post

(Fetterman). No news. Troops paid yesterday. Notified commanding officer that Wolcott had cut hay on Deer Creek.

"Sun, July 20 — Box Elder. Staid at Bat's (Garnier) camp last night. Went to Post. Letter from Dan (Titus) that mules were lost. Went home. Mike (Handly) with me. Started Tom Matthews to meet Dan.

"Mon, July 21 — Box Elder. Dan (Titus) got home last night with wagon. Started him to look for mules today. Went to Deer Creek with Maj. Powell to examine hay bottoms. Returned to Ranch.

"Tues, July 22 — Box Elder. Worked some in shop. Mike (Handly) went to Bats (Baptiste Garnier's) to haul hay. Not feeling well. Dry & hot.

"Wed, July 23 — Box Elder. Done nothin' today. Feeling quite unwell. Nice rain last night.

"Fri, July 25 — Box Elder. Went to Post (Fetterman). Working on racks. Sent three teams to hills for poles.

"Sun, July 27 — Box Elder. Went to Post (Fetterman). Working on racks. Wrote commanding officer to know if I was entitled to hay that (Maj. Frank) Wolcott cut. Borrowed 10 bars iron of Q.M.

"Mon, July 28 — Box Elder. Working on racks. Teams returned with poles.

Hay cutting party come from Deer Creek and went to (George) McMillan's to cut his hay.

"Tues, July 29 — Box Elder. Work on racks. Went to Post (Fetterman). Commanding officer declines to take the responsibility to say that I am entitled to hay cut by Wolcott on Deer Creek. Started 8 teams to Deer Creek for hay. Jim (Berry) cutting (George) McMillan's hay. Sold one machine to Frank Lacey. Foggy morning.

"Thurs, July 31 — Box Elder. Started Jim (Berry) & party to cut hay on Laramie River. Judge Carey & Bro. and Sam Groves here tonight. Bronson & party passed gathering beef. Hot and dry."

During July 1879 John Hunton records receipts of \$77.65 from Robt. Freyer; \$2.50 for horse shoeing; \$3.00 from blacksmith shop; \$1500 from Tom Mathews; \$200 from E. Tillotson and \$1413.12 from Stebbins Post & Co.

Among his expenditures were: Mike Handley \$50; George Boswell \$10; E. Tillotson \$300; Stebbins Post & Co. \$1268.10; for cattle \$275; Baptiste Garnier \$4; expense Dan Titus for mule team \$15.50; E. Nagle \$100; Jas. McGuire \$38.75; G. H. Collins \$94.75; tooth doctor \$105; G. D. Thayer \$800; Dan Titus \$10; Bill Waln \$50; Jas.

Julf (?) \$20.75; hay contract \$18.16; freight \$80; telegrams \$6.15; cigars, meals & drinks \$9.50.

AUGUST, 1879

"Fri, Aug 1 — Box Elder. Working on racks. Bill Aug & Lum Waln left here with their teams to haul wood."

Lum Waln was probably L. D. Waln, one of the earliest freighters between Cheyenne and the Black Hills. Agnes Wright Spring records that in 1875 his rates from Cheyenne to "The Hills" were five cents a pound for freight and \$10 per head for passengers. We do not know if he was related to Bill Waln. And the story of how Bill Aug and John Boyd almost lost their scalps on Chugwater Creek in 1870 has been told earlier in this journal.

"Sun, Aug 3 — Box Elder. Finished racks, brakes etc. and all the wagons started out. Camped at mouth of Box Elder. 8 teams loaded with hay from Deer Creek, about 30 tons."

"Mon, Aug 4 — Box Elder. Shoeing horses, etc. Mr. Hunter come to Ranch to get his horses shod."

"Tues, Aug 5 — Box Elder. Went to Post (Fetterman). Mr. Hunter with me. Govt. sale, bought gunnies, plows, vices etc. Train unloading."

"Wed, Aug 6 — Fort Fetterman last night. Train unloading. Started to Rock

Creek on Coach. Met teams. Arrived at Rock Creek 6 P.M. Settled with Thayer who paid me in full for B. L. (bill of lading).

"Thurs, Aug 7 — Rock Creek last night. Went to Cheyenne. Saw Mr. (W. G.) Bullock. Mrs. Bullock very ill, unconscious and not expected to live till morning.

"Fri, Aug 8 — Cheyenne. Mrs. Bullock died last night at 12½ o'clock. Helped Mr. Bullock to pack his things.

"Sat, Aug 9 — Cheyenne. Clark arrived with team. Mr. Bullock started to Lynchburg with Mrs. B's. remains.

"Mon, Aug 11 — Cheyenne. Loaded (John) Denny's team and started home. Hired and sent out with Denny, 4 Bull Whackers. Heavy rain and hail."

John Denny was a well known stage driver of the '70s and was one of the shot gun messengers on the stage which was held up near Hat Creek Station September 26, 1877. As late as 1893 Denny was still driving coaches, not over the old Wyoming trails, but at the Chicago World's Fair.

"Tues, Aug 12 — Bordeaux. Staid at Bards last night. Nooned at (Hi) Kelly & Co. Got home 4 P.M. Train here unloading.

"Wed, Aug 13 — Bordeaux. Bought 3 yoke of cattle and wagon of Colin Hunter. Went to (Fort) Laramie. Saw

Collins & others. Nooned at (Little) Bats. Train loading. Bill (Waln) discharged 4 men.

"Thurs, Aug 14 — Bordeaux. Staid at Bullock place last night. Returned this A.M. Train finished loading. Paid Colin Hunter \$200 on cattle. Sent bills to Powell. Hand and Squaw come to ranch.

"Fri, Aug 15 — Bordeaux. Train started to (Fort) Fetterman with hay. 12 teams heavy loaded. Lost tire off one wagon and had to come to Ranch for another wagon. Upset wagon on Chug Creek. Guierterman here tonight.

"Sat, Aug 16 — Bordeaux. Train cattle scattered about here today as they were lost by the night herder last night. Put up hay stack(er). It works well with the exception that it does not carru enough hay. (Hi) Kel'y here tonight. Mr. Trufant (?) here.

"Sun, Aug 17 — Bordeaux. All hands resting. (Hi) Ke'lly went to (Fort) Laramie and to mouth of Raw Hide. Hand & party left. Dr. Glover passed.

"Mon, Aug 18 — Bordeaux. Repairing press. Stacking hay. Mr. Whipple & party passed."

I C. Whipple was a pioneer grocer in Cheyenne. Whipple & Hay was the firm's name. In 1875 he was also Mayor of the "Magic City" and one of a permanent committee of influential citizens working for bet-

ter business and transportation — a forerunner of today's chamber of commerce. And in 1878 he was treasurer of the Hidden Treasure Mine and Mill in the Black Hills from which came a single gold "button" valued at \$7,400.

"Wed, Aug 20 — Bordeaux. Tom & Clark went to Cherry Creek to look for cattle but found none there. John Denny come with rope, tire, wagon etc. Stacking hay.

"Fri, Aug 22 — Bordeaux. Godfry here to learn how to run hay press. Baling in stack at stable. Bob Walker's horses staid here last night. Telegram from Tom Mathews to come to Fetterman, started after noon and went to (F. M.) Phillips. Stodard & Lapham's herd passed. Winterling for Guthrie herd passed."

Robert Walker was perhaps the first of the second or permanent group of settlers (1871) on Horse Shoe Creek. His original ranch is now the home of Virginia Cole Trenholm, author of "Footprints on the Frontier." Even the names of the original first white settlers on Horse Shoe are mostly lost and forgotten. In March 1868 the Sioux, under Chief American Horse, burned out every ranch in the area and killed some forty or more of the men and women who lived there. Only a few escaped with their lives — some to the then new Fort Fetterman, and some to Fort Laramie. John R. Smith's story of the Battle on Horse Shoe Creek and John Hunton's ac-

count of how he went back over the bloody trail and helped bury the dead were summarized earlier in this journal.

"Sat, Aug 23 — Staid at (F. M.) Phillips last night. They are rounding up for beef. Heard that Colin Hunter had sold out to Swan but think it is only his beef. Nooned on Horse Shoe. Passed train getting along slowly.

"Sun, Aug 24 — Staid on La Bonty last night. Was bitten on top of my head by a skunk. Got to (Fort) Fetterman. Roundup party working on Box Elder. Have got but few beeves. Got to Box Elder. Dry, hot, dusty.

"Mon, Aug 25 — Box Elder. Went to Harris' to see Lord. Killed three deer. Went to Robert Fryer's shop. Men scattered and at work on sundry things.

"Tues, Aug 26 — Staid at (Robert) Fryer's last night. Went to Post (Fetterman) and to Ranch. Working in shop. Made bargain with (Dave K.) Lord to run 7 teams for me at 75\$ pr. Mo.

"Wed, Aug 27 — Box Elder. Went to beef roundup on LaParelle. Cut out 64 beeves to ship, some of them small 2 year olds. Boyd, Tillotson and others shipping. Hay train arrived. Went to Post (Fetterman) sold Ward 3 beeves.

"Thurs, Aug 28 — Box Elder. Staid at Post last night. Train unloading. Beef herd started to Pine Bluff, (Tom) Ma-

thews & (Jim) Berry with them. At Ranch fixing yokes, wagons etc. (Dave) Lord commenced work. (Maj. Frank) Wolcott's herd of 5000 passed.

"Fri, Aug 29 — Box Elder. A.M. working on wagons, wheels, yokes etc. P.M. (Dave) Lord went to (Robert) Fryer's with one new team and one old. Train fin. unloading and came to Fryer's. Blacksmith here with me working in Fryer's Shop.

"Sat, Aug 30 — Fryer's Shop. Split up train giving Bill Waln 7 teams and Dave Lord 7 teams of 7 yoke each. Waln's train started to Chug this morning. Lord laying over here for repairs. Working on wagons etc."

In August 1879 Mr. Hunton recorded the following receipts: Tillotson \$50; Thayer for freight (see August 6 entry) \$2110.24; Stebbins Post & Co. \$920; Tom Hunton \$331.25 and E. U. Snider & Co. \$126.26.

His expenditures for the month included: Bill Waln \$390 and Bill Waln (for Pierson) \$55; (for Dunk) \$57.63 and (for Pete) \$45; stage fare \$15; R. R. fare \$9.75; hotel bills \$14; Hoffman for Berry \$80; shirt & vest \$6; watch \$12; trunk \$11; clothing & merchandise for men \$89; gloves for Tom \$2; W. G. Bullock (on August 9, the day he started back to Virginia to bury his wife) \$300; G. L. Holt \$11.45; E. L. Gallatin \$113.20; N. Kipp \$105; F. E. Warren \$170; Dr. Cory

\$50; Cartridges \$7.75; E. Nagle \$126; Draper & Hammond \$100; repairing watch \$6.75; perfume etc \$2.45; Bard \$34.20; Wm. Paxton \$25 and other small items.

Occasionally one meets interesting people in Mr. Hunton's "cash account". The F. E. Warren, for instance, to whom he paid \$170 was destined to become the most influential man in the Congress of the United States in later years. Francis E. Warren was the senior member of the U. S. Senate and chairman of its all-powerful appropriations committee when death ended his service. During the 1870's Mr. Warren was known as the "merchant prince" of Cheyenne and the firm with which he was associated, Converse & Warren, did a large business selling "complete outfits" to miners headed for the Black Hills. Today's great air base at Cheyenne bears the name Fort Francis E. Warren.

SEPTEMBER, 1879

"Mon. Sept 1 — Fryer's Shop (at the old Milk Ranch on LaPrele). Finished wagons. (Dave) Lord started to Chug. Lost horses Goose & Frank last night. Went to Post (Fetterman). Q.M. measured wood, made mistake and had to measure 2nd time. Wood not at all satisfactory.

"Tues, Sept 2 — At Post (Fetterman) last night. Got vouchers for 378 1/2 cords

wood and 118 tons hay. Wild & Arbuckle's train passed to Rock Creek. Went to (Robert) Fryer's shop. Had to send for horses to ride as the team has not been found.

"Wed, Sept 3 — Fryer's Shop. Blacksmith repairing wagon by setting tire, bands etc. Mike (Handly) brought bay team to take wagon home. Went to Box Elder. Left blacksmith working on my wagon in Fryer's shop. Sold (N.) Kipp's hides to Ward, 1400 lbs at 8 1/2c, \$119.00.

"Thurs, Sept 4 — Box Elder last night. Left instructions with Dan (Titus) what to do. Started to Chug in light wagon working Ranch team. Mike (Handly) went to Chug also and hunted for horses on way. I found the horses at Walkers. Walker gone to Cheyenne.

"Fri, Sept 5 — At Johnson & Walkers last night. Nooned at Bacons. Got home 4 P.M. Bill (Waln's) train loaded and ready to start. Baling party working on Richard Creek on the McUlvane hay. Big Bat's (Pourier's) family here.

"Sat, Sept 6 — Bordeaux. Bill's train started. Made hay hooks etc.

"Sun, Sept 7 — Bordeaux. (Dave) Lord arrived with train & loaded, 5 teams with 70 bales to team (a bale in those days weighed about 200 pounds). Fred Schwartz passed to Hat Creek.

"Mon, Sept 8 — Boreadux. Lord finished loading and started.

"Tues, Sept 9 — Bordeaux. Went to Cheyenne in buggy, worked Goose & Bird and arrived in Cheyenne at sunset. Attended Masonic Lodge for first time in over twelve years."

We seem to recall hearing, but cannot remember how or when, that John Hunton back in his native Virginia was a member of the same Masonic lodge to which George Washington had belonged. But regardless of that the above entry does establish the fact that Mr. Hunton had not been active in Masonic affairs since he came west in 1867.

"Wed, Sept 10 — Cheyenne last night. Telegram from Tom Mathews that cattle had arrived at Pine Bluff (see August 28 entry). Went to Pine Bluff and loaded cattle on cars. Instructed Tom what to do. Went with cattle.

"Thurs, Sept 11 — North Platte. Arrived here 11 A.M. Unloaded cattle to feed. 5 P.M. loaded and started.

"Fri, Sept 12 — Council Bluff. Arrived here 2 P.M. Unloaded and fed. Had a fair run and not much trouble. 3 P.M. went over to Omaha. Saw Pratt & Ferris, Irvine, Shiedly, Paxton & other cattle men. Reports of cattle market are very discouraging."

A Col J. H. Pratt, member of the cattle barons' Cheyenne Club during the high-flying

'80s, is credited with having named the dress suits which members wore to dinner in those days "Herefords", because of the gleaming white shirt fronts they presented to the doubtless admiring public.

George Ferris, a Union soldier, came to Wyoming from his native Michigan a year or two after the Civil War and went into the cattle business with one Joe Hart on the Platte River, some twelve miles below Fort Steele. In 1902 the Ferris-Haggerty mine in Carbon County, of which Mr. Ferris was then said to be the sole owner, sold to the North American Copper Mining Company for \$1,000,000.

"Sat, Sept 13 — Council Bluffs. Sold 46 steers average 1224 lbs. at \$3.20 per 100 lbs. Shipped 18 head to Chicago via C.&N.W.R.R. (Sam) Groves went on with (E.) Tillotson cattle. Moore sold. Many cattle arrived and departed.

"Sun, Sept 14 — Rail Road Horse Transfer Depot last night. Many cattle arrived at yards today. Started to Chicago over C. & N.W.R.R.

"Mon, Sept 15 — Chicago. Arrived here this P.M. Met with Geo. Thomas. Went to see Pinafore but do not think I will go again.

"Tues, Sept 16 — Chicago. Went to Stock Yards. Cattle all sold. Average weight 1425 lbs. Price 3.90. Met with Jim Taylor, Geo. Thomas, Jim Boyd,

Henry Swan. Went to McVickers (theatre)."

This must have been about the time that Henry Swan and his nephew Will sold out their interests in the Swan Brothers Company and then, in 1880, pioneered cattle raising in the Saratoga Valley, with headquarters at Fort Steele. Their outfit was known as the L7.

"Wed, Sept 17 — Chicago. Sam Groves left. Went to Stock Yards, Lincoln Park and other noted places. Started to Flint, Michigan to see Dodge about Hay Press. Went on Michigan Central R. R.

"Thurs, Sept 18 — Flint, Michigan. Arrived here 2 P.M. Saw Dodge and got repairs for press. This is quite a nice town of about 10,000 inhabitants. Went to Theatre, witnessed the play of Lady Teasel. Miss Jane Combs as Lady Teasel.

"Fri, Sept 19 — Detroit, Mich. Come here today from Flint. Took in the State fair. Good display of Durham, Jersey and Alderney cattle and agricultural implements. Will go to Chicago tonight.

"Sat, Sept 20 — Chicago. Arrived here at 7:30 A.M. Stopped at Palmer House. Made some purchases and will go west tomorrow. Met with Gen. Crook and started west in company with him over N.W. R.R. Boyd, Jim Bosler and other Omaha men on train.

"Mon, Sept 22 — Omaha. Arrived

here 11 A.M. Bought some provisions and other things. Very dry and dusty.

"Tues, Sept 23 — On train going west. Met Mr. Babbitt who appears to be a very nice gentleman. Rainy."

Col. A. T. Babbitt was a prominent stockman of that day in the Laramie River region. He was also one of the promoters of the Wyoming Copper Company which in later years operated a smelter at the now ghost-town settlement of Fairbanks, along the Platte River near the copper-rich Hartville uplift, not far from the present town of Guernsey, Wyoming.

"Wed, Sept 24 — Cheyenne. Arrived here today. Paid out considerable money to different parties. Nice day but very dry.

"Thurs, Sept 25 — Cheyenne. Waiting for team to go home. Very dull here.

"Fri, Sept 26 — Cheyenne. Deadwood burned last night. Clark arrived with team and returned with men."

According to Agnes Wright Spring's "Cheyenne and Black Hills Stage Routes" that September, 1879, fire at Deadwood completely wiped out the business section of the gold-rush capital in the Black Hills, and resulted in a substantial business boom for Cheyenne. Almost before the embers were cooled Deadwood business men started rebuilding substantial stores and business houses and ordered

new stocks of goods and supplies from Cheyenne by telegraph.

"Sat, Sept 27 — Bordeaux. Got here today on coach. (Dave) Lord here repairing wagons and racks. (Bill) Waln's train near lower crossing of Chug. Waln here and wants to quit but will take train across river, turn it over to Bob Waln and return.

"Sun. Sept 28 — Bordeaux. Sent (A. B.) Clark to (W. G.) Bullock place to fence in hay stack. (Dave) Lord went to McUlvanes to load. Zack Thomerson (Thomasson) & Jim Lane here to dinner. Dru & dusty.

"Mon. Sept 29 — Bordeaux. Lord got loaded and back this far. Set tire. Bill Waln returned. says train No. 1 is getting along all right. Settled up with him, owed him \$154. Bought Bill Aug's note of \$700 of Waln.

"Tues. Sept 30 — Bordeaux. (Dave) Lord started to (Fort) Fetterman with train of six teams. Bill Waln went home to Iowa. Baling outfit have been at work at McUlvanes and Colin Hunters nearly all this month. (A. B.) Clark returned from Bullock place."

Some idea of the extent of John Hunton's increasing activities, business and otherwise, may be gleaned from the following complete list of entries in his diary "cash account" for September, 1879:

Receipts: N. Kipp \$119, Tom Hunton \$100; Stebbins Post & Co. \$100; Sam Groves \$40; for 64 beeves \$2,419.43; for hay \$2,665; for wood \$2,384.55; A. H. (Heck) Reel \$212. A total of \$8,039.98.

Expenditures: D. K. Lord \$50; John Boyd \$20, Lum Waln \$10; flour \$5; Geo. McMillan \$220; Bill Aug \$38; Dan McLeod \$55.12; Bill Waln \$100 and "for Miller" \$26.70; Ed Dickey \$36.16; Tom Matthews \$40; Sam Groves \$40; W. J. Broach \$12.50; Hotel Omaha \$5; hotel Council Bluff \$2; sleeper \$3; meals \$3.90; porter \$.75; fruit & cigars \$1.10; carriage, wine etc \$15 (on the 17th and again on the 18th); carriage, wine \$14; fare to Flint \$10; Palmer House \$9; theatre at Flint \$2.25; hotel \$2; buggy \$1.50; castings for press \$10; fare Flint to Detroit \$2.25; carriage, seeing fair etc \$10; hotel Detroit \$2; bus .75; fare Detroit to Chicago \$10; iron and wire \$300; incidentals, wine etc \$23; under clothing \$21.65; Palmer Hotel \$5; sleeper \$3; meals \$1.50; Morgan & Gallagher \$379; S. & W. for blankets \$20.69; wheelbarrow & maul \$7.80; ammunition \$27.12; Paxton & Gallagher \$112.33; hotel Omaha \$3; sleeper \$4; meals \$1.75; E. Nagle \$542.76; Draper & Hammond \$300; B. Hellman \$200; Smith & Harrington \$300; Holt for book \$3.70; H. Haas \$207.65; Hkf \$1.75; Addoms & Glover \$12; Stebbins Post & Co. \$187.35; E. Nagle for freight \$100; Tom Hunton \$100; beer

etc \$26; stage fare \$6.50; Spang for Lum Waln \$126; D. K. Lord \$200; Bill Waln to men \$122.19; Geo. Drake \$62.75; H. E. Miller \$45; John France \$100; Colin Hunter \$61; Bill Waln \$637 and Tom Hunton for man \$20. A total of \$5,029.37.

OCTOBER, 1879

"Wed, Oct 1 — Bordeaux. Lallee went to Tobe Millers. Clark & Jim digging potatoes. Heard of Thornburg's fight with Indians. (T. A.) Kent and (Heck) Reel nooned here. Dry & dusty."

In history the fight referred to above is sometimes known as "Thornburg's Massacre". When the Ute Indians in south western Wyoming left their reservation and took to the war path Major Thornburg (or Thornburgh), commanding a battalion of troops, was sent out from Rawlins to protect the settlers and white personnel at the Indian agency. He was killed when the red men attacked and forced his troops to dig in until they were rescued by reinforcements under General Merritt. John G. Bourke in his book, "On the Border with Crook" attributes this outbreak to inadequate rations and failure to keep pledges.

Capt Bourke also tells of a weird incident which occurred during this battle. One of the first to fall in the Indian attack was an unnamed civilian blacksmith from Fort Steele and the hardpressed soldiers unceremoniously wrap-

ped what they thought was the poor man's corpse in a piece of canvas and used him for a sandbag in their hasty barricade where he was forgotten in all the excitement until Merritt's column rode up to the rescue, whereupon the survivors climbed on top of their earthworks to cheer loud and long.

Then, says Bourke, "It may have been the noise — it may have been something else — but at any rate there was a movement at one end of the rifle pits, and slowly and feebly from under the overlapping clay and canvas, the dead man arose, shook himself, put his hand wearily to his head, and asked, 'My God, what's the matter, boys?' Then he staggered about, many of the men afraid to touch him, or even go near him, and in a few minutes was dead in good earnest."

"Thurs, Oct 2 — Bordeaux. Set tire on light wagon. Company cavalry passed to Ute war."

Charles Frederick, one of the best known pioneers of the Fort Laramie region, was a veteran of that Ute war. A native of Prussia, he joined the United States army in Chicago in 1878. He served at Fort Steele and Rawlins and was among the troops sent to the field when the Utes broke out and Major Thornburgh was killed. Mr. Frederick was honorably discharged from the army at Fort Laramie in 1883.

"Fri, Oct 3 — Bordeaux. Tom Haynes got here with load freight. Screw to

(hay) press give out. Lallee returned.
(T. A.) Kent returned to Cheyenne.

"Sat, Oct 4 — Bordeaux. Putting new screw in press. Col. Bacon come to Ranch.
(Heck) Reel returned to Cheyenne.

"Sun, Oct 5 — Bordeaux. Went to Ramsey place and finished putting screw in press. Some roundup come on Chug at Ramsey's from Goshens Hole.

"Mon, Oct 6 — Bordeaux. Went to Ranch. Press running all right. Digging potatoes.

"Tues, Oct 7 — Bordeaux. Digging potatoes. Beef roundup in neighborhood.

"Wed, Oct 8 — Digging potatoes. Set tire on wagon etc. Coleman's cattle in pasture. (Hi) Kelly here, he & I settled accts. in full to date. Roundup branding."

Re Mr. Coleman: "During the fall of 1867 two men built and operated a ranch where the town of Chugwater now stands. About the same time two other men built ranches on Big Bitter Cottonwood creek where the 'Fetterman Cut-off' road crosses the creek at the M. F. Coleman place. The Fetterman cut-off road diverged from the Fort Laramie and Fort D. A. Russell road at Bordeaux, ran down the Chugwater creek valley, crossed the Laramie river a short distance below the railroad bridge, crossed Bitter Cottonwood creek at the Coleman place, and continued on to

Fort Fetterman." — John Hunton in the Fort Laramie Scout, June 9, 1927.

"Thurs, Oct 9 — Bordeaux. Kent & Saxby (?) here last night. Newcomb, Hall and others here last night.

"Fri, Oct 10 — Bordeaux. Bronson here last night and left on coach. Loaned LeBontee Frenchman (Flagothier) horse & saddle to go to Millers. Baling party come with press etc. Setting tire etc on press carriage.

"Sat, Oct 11 — Bordeaux. Repairing press etc. 'Frank' the Chug operator here repairing line.

"Sun, Oct 12 — Bordeaux. Baling party started to Bullock place. Newcomb & Hall left with Coleman's cattle. Bob Waln come with train, work cattle all looking very thin.

"Mon, Oct 13 — Bordeaux. Train laying over, shoeing cattle. Russell & family here tonight.

"Tues, Oct 14 — Bordeaux. Train went to Colin Hunter's place to load. Winterling and other up country cowboys passed going home. Dan Titus come with mule team.

"Wed, Oct 15 — Bordeaux. Train loaded 480 bales Colin Hunter hay and come to Ranch. Dan shod Tom's mares. Cloudy, rainy all day.

"Thurs, Oct 16 — Bordeaux. Train laid here today. Sent Dan Titus to Chey-

enne with mule team. Two work oxen died today. Concoe's (?) beef herd passed to Pine Bluff. Rained all last night and part of forenoon.

"Fri, Oct 17 — Bordeaux. Train started to (Fort) Fetterman. Digging potatoes. Sent check to Carey for horses. Paid taxes Laramie City. Wrote to Mr. Bullock. Sent Mrs. Hall \$60.

"Sat, Oct 18 — Bordeaux. Bob Waln here last night. Skew Johnson passed to Cheyenne. Wrote to Wm. Cave. Bob Hamilton come to Ranch and says one steer in Waln's train died on Chug sand hill, others played out and will have to leave one wagon at Bacons. (Dave) Lord lost his cattle on Cottonwood. Nice day.

"Sun, Oct 19 — Bordeaux. Went to Bullock place in light wagon & took grain. Press running all right now.

"Mon, Oct 20 — Bullock place. Men moved press and made 86 bales today. I went to 'Big Bats' (Pourier's). Killed some chicken & rabbits.

"Tues, Oct 21 — Bullock Place. Rode up to Sawyers & Pollards. Neither of them at home. Made 100 bales today.

"Warren Sawyer made final homestead proof on land in Section 21, Township 25, Range 66 West in 1876" — John Hunton in Fort Laramie Scout, September 1, 1927.



WARREN SAWYER

Who proved up on homestead near Fort
Laramie in 1876

(Photograph courtesy Mrs. Howard A.
Robinson, Wheatland, Wyoming.)

"Wed, Oct 22 — Bordeaux. Got here from Bullock place at noon. (Dave) Lord loading at Colin Hunter's. Finished digging potatoes.

"Thurs, Oct 23 — Bordeaux. Clark & Jim hauling wood. Repairing Tom's old wagon. Skew Johnson come on coach. Lord nooned here and pulled on. Dan Titus got back from Cheyenne with mule team.

"Fri, Oct 24 — Bordeaux. Dan shod 'Bird'. Fixed pump. Started to (Fort) Fetterman. Johnson with me. Went to Bullock place. Baling going on all right.

"Sat, Oct 25 — Staid at Bullock place last night. Come to Johnson & Walkers today.

"Sun, Oct 26 — Box Elder. Arrived here about dark. Tom & Jim on round-up. Passed Bob Waln near Bed Tick getting along very slow. Crawford working on house.

"Tues, Oct 28 — Box Elder. Went to Post (Fetterman). Train in and unloading. Will leave some cattle here as they are too poor to travel. Saw 'Portugee' Phillips. R. (Dick) Frewen & others. Went to Ranch. Boswell took potatoes from train to Ranch. Paid (E.) Tillotson, John Boyd's a-c \$151.12.

"Wed, Oct 29 — Box Elder. Killed some chickens. Doing nothing. Suppose train started to Laramie Bridge after hay.

John Boyd went to Fort (Fetterman) with load wood. 7½ P.M. snowing.

"Fri. Oct 31 — Box Elder. Here all day. Killed some chickens. Cleaned guns, etc. Baptiste (Little Bat Garnier) here today."

Mr. Hunton's recorded cash receipts took a big dip during October, 1879, and were as follows: from Coleman \$9.50; Stebbins Post & Co. \$1500; Fred Schwartz \$140; French Joe \$25; Dan Titus \$21.50; Powell \$28.25; Ed Smith \$6 and Stage Co. for hay \$27.50.

His expenditures included: to Lallee \$20; H. B. (Hi) Kelly \$23.75; Jessie \$5; T. J. Haynes \$65.73; S. D. Kimbark \$90; H. Pier-son \$59.10; Bob Waln \$45; C. F. Miller \$59.04; Jos. (or Jas.) McGuire \$863.10; Stephens & Wilcox \$60; Dan Titus \$225; Judge Cary (Carey) \$280; J. W. Donnellan (Donnelan) taxes \$236.77; S. F. Hall \$60; H. E. Miller \$233; Tom Hunton \$250; E. Tillotson for Boyd \$208.12; Zimmer (?) \$20 and Lum Waln \$50.

The "C. F. Miller" to whom Mr. Hunton paid \$59.04 was probably Charles F. Miller, one of the many Confederate veterans who came west when their cause was lost. Mr. Miller was wounded in the side at the battle of Antietam, Maryland, and afterward credited a Bible and pair of scissors in his pocket with having saved his life. The bullet or schrapnel which hit him struck those objects, protecting his body from the full impact. He

too was a Virginian, born in Rappahannoch county April 17, 1833, and came to Wyoming (then Dakota territory), in 1867. He secured employment with S. F. Nuckolls, prominent Cheyenne merchant, who put him in charge of a "traveling store" with which he followed the westward advance of the Union Pacific railroad, then some forty miles east of Cheyenne, until it reached Corrine, Utah. When Merchant Nuckolls was sent to Washington as the territorial delegate to Congress he placed Mr. Miller in charge of his extensive business interests. Later Charles F. Miller served as a probate judge and county treasurer, and had several thousand head of cattle on the range during the late '70s. He retired from business in 1897 but continued active in Cheyenne's civic affairs.

J. W. Donnelan, to whom Mr. Hunton paid the above item of \$236.77 for taxes, was manager and cashier of the first bank in Laramie City.

And this log cabin may have been the home of the late Hon. Joseph M. Carey on Box Elder creek when he received \$280 for horses (see October 17 entry) from John Hunton that fall day in 1879.



FIRST HOME BUILT BY J. M. CAREY
ON THE "CY" RANCH

Photo by courtesy of
Agnes Wright Spring
Colorado State Historian

NOVEMBER, 1879

"Sat, Nov 1 — Box Elder. Here all day doing nothing. Crawford went to LaParelle for lime. George Harris here after provisions. let him have some. Tom & Jim still out on roundup.

"Mon, Nov 3 — Box Elder. Went to Post (Fetterman) and returned. Had wood and hay received and signed vouchers for same aggregating \$5,428.80. In-

struced Chief Q. M. to pay it (to) Stebbins Post & Co. Nice day.

"Wed, Nov 5 — Box Elder. Started to hunt winter camp for work cattle. Stopped at Post. Had Jim, Goose & Bird horses.

"Thurs, Nov 6 — Post (Fetterman) last night. Started N.E. and struck a dry creek and followed it down some distance. (Bill) Zimmer (?) with me.

"Fri, Nov 7 — Camped on a dry creek last night near the forks at a water hole. Traveled down said creek to another fork and camped.

"Sat, Nov 8 — Traveled west up a creek that has considerable timber on it. Snowed about 2 inches last night.

"Sun, Nov 9 — Crossed the divide to Dry Cheyenne and stopped at Williams' Ranch. John (Portugee) Phillips stopping here. Saw great many 'Platte' cattle today.

"Mon, Nov 10 — Went up Dry Cheyenne to 'Stinking Water' and back to Williams' Ranch. (Portugee) Phillips with me. Think I will put cattle on Cheyenne.

"Tues, Nov 11 — Went to Fort Fetterman. No news. Saw Rufus Roads.

"Fri, Nov 14 — Box Elder. Working on corral & bridge. Paid (Fred) Foy & (Al) Spang for (Bill) Aug's & other wood.

"Sat, Nov 15 — Box Elder. Made

bolts and put braces on bridge. Dan (Titus) and (L. P.) Justy got here with mule & horse teams. Bull outfit got to Fort (Fetterman). Very cold last night.

"Sun. Nov 16 — Box Elder. John (Portugee) Phillips and Jim Monroe here last night. Tom & I went to Fort. Train unloading. P.M. snowing.

"Mon, Nov 17 — Box Elder. Made ice hooks. Dan (Titus) shoeing horses.

"Tues, Nov 18 — Box Elder. Tom working on bridge. Dan shod sorrel horse & Sam. Made ice hook. Bull outfit got here and put yokes & chains away. Paid all hands off.

"Wed, Nov 19 — Box Elder. Mule & horse team started to Bordeaux and twenty head of ranch and train horses. Kept 7 riding and 2 work horses on here. (Dave) Lord started north with oxen (164) to keep them for winter.

"Thurs, Nov 20 — Box Elder. Baptiste (Garnier) brought load of posts (29). Daily passed. Started to Bordeaux, Boswell with me. Went via Post (Fetterman). Signed blank vouchers for wood & hay. Letter from Arthur Clark wanting \$1400 to cr. at S. P. (Stebbins Post & Co.) Letter from S. P. & Co. have \$5,436.68 to my cr.

"Fri, Nov 21 — Horse Shoe. St. Dennis arrived here 4:20 P.M."

Fred St. Dennis came to Wyoming terri-

tory from Montreal in 1879 with W. F. Macfarlane and established a road ranch where the Cheyenne-Fort Fetterman road crossed Horse Shoe creek.

"Sat, Nov 22 — Bordeaux. Arrived here at sundown. Everything all right.

"Sun, Nov 23 — Bordeaux. Started to Cheyenne. Stopped at (Hi) Kellys and saw him few minutes, he is quite sick. Arrived in Cheyenne.

"Mon, Nov 24 — Cheyenne. Paid George Boswell and Ed Smith and some few others.

"Wed, Nov 26 — Cheyenne. Here doing nothing, will go to Denver tomorrow. Left word with (E.) Nagle what Dan (Titus) should do. Snowed some today."

Although Mr. Hunton notes that on both Tuesday and Wednesday he was in Cheyenne "doing nothing," the remarkable change in his handwriting from rather precise small script to a large and almost illegible scrawl makes one wonder if he Really Told All concerning his pre-Thanksgiving day activities in the Magic City.

"Thurs, Nov 27 — Cheyenne. Went to Denver with legislative excursion party. Expected to meet with A. V. Larimer and proposed to sell him the S O herd.

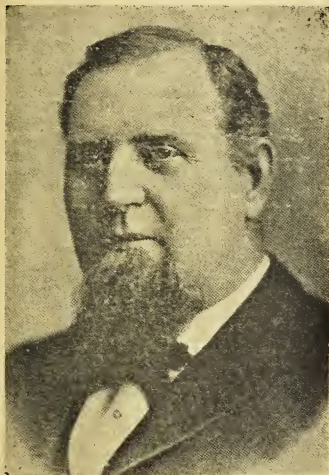
"Fri, Nov 28 — Denver. Went to

Golden, George Town etc etc and returned.

"Sat, Nov 29 — Denver. Spent the day in looking around the city. Started to Cheyenne 5 P.M. arrived at 12 P.M."

The only receipts recorded in his diary by Mr. Hunton during November, 1879, were \$10 from E. Tillotson, \$20 from C. E. Clay and \$1200 from Stebbins Post & Co.

Among his expenditures are: Geo. McMillan \$50; Bill Zimmer (?) \$108; John Boyd \$100; Jos. (or Jas.) McGuire \$50; Wm. Aug \$101.80; Fred Foy \$253.50; Al Spang \$90.75; H. S. Ellis \$23; St. Dennis \$4; Wm. Bacon \$11; Ed Smith \$300; Geo. Boswell \$453; Stebbins Post & Co. \$4,605.75; hat \$5; small sums to Marks Myers, S. Bon and P. L. Wilson; B. Hellman \$250; clothing \$22.75; E. Nagle \$200; shirts & studs \$9.50; carriage, theatre, drinks & cigars \$5.50; expense to Denver \$12.50; N. Robertson \$100; H. S. Tracy \$126; Dyers hotel \$8.50; and on November 18, when Hunton laid by his bull train for the winter and paid off all his hands his expenditures were — Al Spang \$39, Tom Mathews \$125, John France \$47 and "paid teamsters" \$611.86. A total of more than \$7,700.



ERASMUS NAGLE, pioneer Cheyenne wholesale grocer and merchant who numbered John Hunton among his steady

customers, was also a partner for some years with Charles Wulfjen (the father of Mrs. John B. Kendrick) in the cattle business on Sybille. Mr. Nagle was chairman of the Wyoming Capitol Building Commission during construction of the state capitol in the late '80s. In 1886 he also built a \$50,000 home in Cheyenne, the city's finest at that time. He married Miss Emma Houseman, daughter of Pioneers Henry and Ellen Houseman, November 24, 1875. Their son, George, continued his father's extensive business.

DECEMBER, 1879

"Mon, Dec 1 — Bordeaux. Arrived here 8 P.M. Left Cheyenne this morning.

"Tues, Dec 2 — Bordeaux. Men baling hay. Put in new pumps. Old Cub horse died. E. H. Warner here last night.

"Wed, Dec 3 — Bordeaux. Men baling hay. Bat. 3 Cav. under Col. Bracket (?) passed to Fort Laramie. Old Jenny and other squaws come from Agency.

"Thurs, Dec 4 — Bordeaux. Baling hay. G. H. Collins (Fort Laramie post trader) here tonight.

"Fri, Dec 5 — Bordeaux. Cleaned out ice house. Cut wood, etc. (Maj. Frank) Wolcott passed to Deer creek. Jim Lane dined here."

In addition to being the representative of

British cattle interests and a highly controversial figure in the early range wars, Major Wolcott, together with pioneer rancher George H. Cross and Ed David, were among the organizers of Converse County, Wyoming, and served as that new county's first board of commissioners.

"Sat. Dec 6 — Bordeaux. Baling hay. L. P. Justy very sick. I went to Chug Station and telegraphed to Fort Laramie for doctor. Arthur Coffee accidentally shot himself and died at 5 P.M. 7½ P.M. Doctor Grimes arrived. Cloudy, cold, little snow.

"Sun, Dec 7 — Bordeaux. Justy little better. Doctor went home. Phillips' man passed home with his mares. Joe Elford went to Deer Creek.

"Mon, Dec 8 — Bordeaux. Repairing fence. Killed beef. Justy improving but very little.

"Tues, Dec 9 — Bordeaux. Cutting wood, baling hay etc. Old Pete Richard (Reshaw), Teschemacher & Pard and Rustic House Carroll here tonight. Frank Browning notified me he was going to quit."

The "Teschemacher & Pard" mentioned above were in all probability Hubert Teschemacher, or his brother Arthur, and Fred de Billier. Hubert Teschemacher and deBillier bought the Duck Bar Ranch on Cottonwood from the Warner Brothers in January, 1880.

Both are romantic and legendary names in cow country history of the '80s.

They became partners with John Hunton in numerous involved land and cattle deals during that fantastic boom and bust era — as this journal will show — and they all took it on the chins together when the bubble burst.

Hubert Teschemacher came of a wealthy English family who made their home in Paris. The story is that when young Teschemacher returned to Paris after a trip around the world following his graduation from Harvard, he happened to read a newspaper article describing life on our great western plains and decided right off that was for him. He established headquarters in Cheyenne where he lived in the grand manner with a man servant to attend him and spent his winters in Paris. Historian Clay records that "Tesche", as he was called, had only one true love who was faithless — "more wicked than Bathsheba or Jezebel" — but he fails to name the interesting lady. Despite this misfortune Mr. Teschemacher bore up rather well under his broken heart and there are those who say he was really quite a devil with the ladies, had a pretty girl in every port apparently willing to ease his pain with tender sympathy, etc. However that may have been he lived and died unwed, if not unloved.

Among the books the writer managed to salvage from John Hunton's library is a copy of "Tome 1, OEuvres de Moliere", Paris 1873, in which there are copious marginal nota-

tions, pencil sketches, other doodling and the name "A. M. Teschemacher". Also a copy of "International Law" by Theodore D. Woolsey, published by Scribner, Armstrong & Co. in 1877. This book also carries numerous penciled notations and the back fly leaf was used to practice writing the signature of "H. E. Teschemacher" over and over again.

Fred deBillier was a Frenchman, a college pal of Teschemacher's at Harvard and apparently cut from much the same aristocratic cloth. When the crash came he retired from the cow business to his chateau in France and winters on the Riviera.

John Hunton had neither rich relatives nor a chateau to fall back on when faced with financial ruin. So he remained and fought life through as best he could along the Laramie — to the end of his days.

"Wed, Dec 10 — Bordeaux. Set wagon tire for Carroll. Baling hay. J. D. May commenced driving Buck Board. Tom and Col. Bacon caught two beaver. Letter from D. (or Dr) W. Jones."

The "J. D. May" above was possibly Jim May, stock tender and station operator at May's Ranch on Lance Creek in 1877. He was also active in helping to run down and capture several notorious road agents during 1878. Agnes Wright Spring in her "Cheyenne and Black Hills Stage Routes" records that in November of that year Jim May and Jesse Brown were taking two prisoners, William

Mansfield and Archie McLaughlin, charged with stage robbing, from Cheyenne to Deadwood for trial — but they did not get there. A short distance north of Fort Laramie the stage coach in which they were traveling was stopped by a group of masked "vigilantes" who made the guards and others get out, put the prisoners on top of the coach with ropes around their necks, tied the other end of said ropes to the limb of a big cottonwood and then drove on. In a short time, no trial was necessary. The names of the lynchers were never disclosed, but their action was acclaimed by the press of that day.

"Thurs. Dec 11 — Bordeaux. Baling hay. Bob Walker & wife passed to Cheyenne. Billy Bacon & wife here tonight. Turned cattle in (Johnny) Owens' field. Letter from Col. Van Vliet."

Mrs. Criss Cross Morton, of Oakland, California, daughter of Wyoming Pioneer George H. Cross, supplies the following information concerning Bob Walker's matrimonial experiences:

"My father knew Skew Johnson and Bob Walker very well and often stayed with them . . . The (first) Mrs. Walker was a 'Dance Hall Queen' . . ., one of the girls at the McDaniel Theatre and Dance Hall in Cheyenne. Her duration at the Walker & Johnson ranch was short. She couldn't stand the quietness and lonely ranch life . . . soon left for Cheyenne.

"Skew Johnson went to Montana with Clint Graham. Bob Walker continued on alone at the ranch but was so lonesome he got (another) wife through a 'Heart and Hand' magazine. She was a widow with several children . . . did not come into the picture until the '80s. Father said this second wife converted Bob to some religion and they left the country . . . wanted to be near a church and located so the children could go to school. She never liked the wilderness."

"Sat, Dec 13 — Bordeaux. Doing nothing. All hands except Clark & the cook quit work last night. Tom Hunton, Dan (Titus) and others preparing to go hunting.

"Sun, Dec 14 — Bordeaux. Tom (Hunton) & party started hunting with forage & provisions enough to last two weeks. Bat (Little Bat Garnier) come to Ranch. Washed and greased horses backs.

"Mon, Dec 15 — Bordeaux. Doing nothing. Zack Thomerson (Thomasson) passed. Dave Night stopped for dinner. Billy Brown here.

"Tues, Dec 16 — Bordeaux. Doing but little except taking care of Ranch, washing sore back ponies etc. Issued to Govt. train. Jack Farrell, Roberts, Terry Fee here last night. 'Al' took away J & W's (Johnson & Walker's) mules. P.M. snowing, cold.

"Wed, Dec 17 — Bordeaux. Run-

ning the Ranch. Warner, Guthrie and Car (or Par) & wife, Joe Elford & wife and others dined here. About 1 inch snow on ground. 9 P.M. Thermometer at 0."

Jim Shaw in his memoirs, many of which have been published by Virginia Cole Trenholm in her "Footprints on the Frontier", recalls that when he arrived in the Laramie region in September of 1879 the Guthries and Douglas Willan owned lots of cattle on the LaBonte; while Joe Kennedy, George Cross, Dennie Lehman (Dennis Lemon), Hod Emerson and the Bakers ran their extensive herds on LaPrele creek.

"Fri, Dec 19 — Bordeaux. Doing nothing. Baptiste Garnier left. Bill Miller & Searight's men passed to Cheyenne.

"Sat, Dec 20 — Bordeaux. Lallee left, Mrs. LeRocque, Louise & Jesse ditto. Give L. span horses, wagon & harness."

Somehow, the above entry seems to have an air of finality about it. John Hunton would not lightly "give" a team of horses, harness and wagon to anyone. But he did to Lallee, and she left Bordeaux with three companions who presumably were also of Indian blood. Time will tell whether Lallee comes back again, but in any event Hunton's squawman days are drawing to a close.

"Sun, Dec 21 — Bordeaux. Doing nothing. Lots of teams passing. John (Portugee) Phillips here tonight.

"Mon, Dec 22 — Bordeaux. Doing

nothing. Many teams here last night. Phillips left on coach. Started to Cheyenne on coach. Billy Bacon here tonight.

"Tues, Dec 23 — Staid at Maxwells last night. Got to Cheyenne 3 P.M. Very cold.

"Wed, Dec 24 — Cheyenne. Loafing. Went to theatre to see the Plunketts. Very cold.

"Thurs, Dec 25 — Cheyenne. Loafing. Saw W. P. Noble here. Dull Xmas. Tom Hunton arrived. Went to theatre.

"Fri, Dec 26 — Cheyenne. Loafing.

"Sat, Dec 27 — Cheyenne. Doing nothing. (Hi) Kelly come to town.

"Sun, Dec 28 — Cheyenne. Doing nothing. Am feeling quite unwell. Dr. Crook prescribed for me. Browning come."

About December, 1878, Dr. J. J. Crook, of Cheyenne, accompanied a *Sun* reporter to the sick bed of fabulous Lurline Monte Verdi, a strange and remarkable woman, to hear her statement of how she became a doctor and surgeon for the Charlies Ross gang of stage robbers.

Lurline had been married to an army physician, studied both medicine and surgery right along with him. But when her husband died she took up a somewhat more exciting career — became a "Twenty-one" dealer and also a popular entertainer in the gambling halls of gold-crazy Deadwood. Soon she had an es-

tablishment of her own — she called it a “restaurant” — which apparently became a rendezvous for outlaws. The lady learned considerable about their business by keeping her ears open. She also kept on living by keeping her mouth shut.

One night Billy Mansfield (later hanged, see December 10 entry) whom Madam Monte Verdi called her “particular friend” made a date to meet her at a Deadwood opium smoking house where she was in the habit of spending “pleasant hours”. When she showed up Mansfield insisted that she accompany him to a deserted shack where McLaughlin and other members of the gang were waiting for them. After swearing the lady to secrecy they took her on to still another house where Johnny H. Brown (in jail at Cheyenne when she made her statement) had been lying delirious and without medical attention for some ten days, with a bullet in his side. She operated and he recovered, but the suspicious outlaws kept her under close surveillance and in fear for her life until the gang was broken up.

Agnes Wright Spring's “Cheyenne and Black Hills Stage Routes” tells more facts and fables concerning the career of many sided Lurline Monte Verdi.

“Mon, Dec 29 — Cheyenne. Doing nothing. Saw ‘Nick’ going to (Fort) Fetterman. Am unwell. Browning left.

“Tues, Dec 30 — Cheyenne. Remain-

ed in my room all day unwell. (Hi) Kelly went east. Pratt & Ferris talked with me about buying my herd.

"Wed, Dec 31 — Cheyenne. Quite sick. Dan and William come in team."

To judge by the scrawled and slightly garbled entries made by Mr. Hunton during his holiday week of loafing, theatre going, etc. etc. in Cheyenne it appears that he was again under an emotional strain which, coupled perhaps with some overindulgence, may account for his "unwell" condition. These rare little episodes seem to follow a general pattern, coming on as a rule after he has had unpleasantness with Lallee or unusual financial difficulties.

During December 1879 Hunton's only recorded receipts were \$100 from his bar at Bordeaux and \$624.51 from the government for cord wood.

His listed expenditures total several times the amount of his receipts and include: hotel bills \$3.50; stable bill \$10.50; H. Haas \$140; W. H. Murphy \$300; Jim Berry to Bergman (?) \$35; stage driver \$5; Tom Hunton \$150; Smith & Harrington \$100; for album \$5; diary & Mem. book \$2; shirt & sleeve buttons \$5; interest \$135; S. F. Hall \$200; F. P. Browning \$260; Cheyenne Leader \$12; E. H. Redfern \$150; Wm. Bullock \$20; Dan Titus \$15; crockery etc \$29.90; towels etc \$16.20; and he gave Lallee \$15 on December 3 and \$30 on Decem-

ber 20, the day she left with team, harness and wagon, probably loaded with her lares, penates and friends or relatives. This is considerably more money than Mr. Hunton has ever previously recorded giving to Lallee in any one month.

The passing of the 1870's marks the gradual ending of one era and ushers in the beginning of a new one for John Hunton and his associates. The great Indian wars are over, the strength of the tribes has been broken. White women are coming into the new land in greater numbers and claiming the squaw men for their own. The slow plodding bull freight trains and the dashing stage coaches are also being pushed slowly back as the steel ribbons of the railroads pierce their way forward along the old trails.

The 1880's bring with them a miracle of sudden and undreamed of wealth to the western ranges, followed by equally swift and completely devastating disaster and financial ruin. John Hunton sets his foot to the beanstalk ladder and climbs with the best of them to new affluence, new political and social position — and to a new love. He also ends up with his full share of the heartbreak which came when that flimsy ladder crashed, bringing heavy losses not only to the western cow men but to investors in the cattle bubble both in this country and overseas.

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- GRIMES, DR. — 1879, December 6, 7.
- GRINNELL, GEORGE BIRD — 1879, following January 10.
- GROVES, SAM D. — 1878, January 24; February 28; March 1; April 8; May 22; June 13, 19, 20, 27; July 7, 8, 19, 22, 27; November 22; December 20, 21, 22, 29, 30, 31. 1879, February 3, 4; April 10; July 13, 31; September 13, 17, 30.
- GRUARD, FRANK — 1878, following April 30.
- GUITTERMAN (GETERMANN) — 1878, August 23. 1879, August 15.
- GUTHERIE (GUTHRIE) — 1879, August 22; December 17.
- HAAS, H. — 1878, January 18; February 25; May 19; June 6; July 23; September 30; November 21. 1879, January 14; April 12; May 21, 31; June 17, 20; September 30; December 31.
- HAGGERTY — 1879, following September 12.
- HALL — 1879, January 20; October 9, 12.
- HALL, MOLLIE — 1879, January 4, 31; February 26; March 14.
- HALL, S. F. — 1878, April 30. 1879, October 31; December 31.
- HALL, MRS. S. F. — 1878, February 27; August 31. 1879, October 17.

- HAMILTON, BOB — 1878, April 6. 1879, October 18.
- HAND, THE — 1878, August 12, 27. 1879, August 14, 17.
- HANDLY (HANDLEY), MIKE — 1879, July 6, 12, 13, 20, 22, 31; September 3, 4.
- HANSON (HINSON), WM. — 1878, February 5; April 8, 14, 19, 20, 23, 30.
- HARDEN, GEORGE — 1878, following September 6.
- HARNY — 1878, September 1.
- HARPER, BILL — 1878, following October 5.
- HARRIS — 1879, August 25.
- HARRIS, GEORGE — 1878, May 15, 16; October 5. 1879, November 1.
- HART — 1878, May 21, 23. 1879, January 15.
- HART, MAJ. — 1878, September 11.
- HATHAWAY, W. E. — 1878, May 15; June 23; July 4.
- HAULEY (HANLEY), MIKE — 1878, December 23.
- HAWKINS, MAJ. — 1878, March 3.
- HAY, CHARLY — 1878, July 31.
- HAYNES, TOM J. — 1879, October 3, 31.
- HAYES, PRESIDENT RUTHERFORD B. — 1878, Foreword. 1879, January 1.
- HECHT, C. — 1879, June 11.
- HECHT, RYE (REINHOLD) — 1878, April 17.
- HELLMAN, B. — 1878, December 29. 1879, September 30; November 29.
- HELPENSTEIN — 1878, October 26.
- HESS, FRED — 1878, December 29.
- HEWITT, ED — 1878, July 20.
- HILL, BILL — 1878, following October 5.
- HILL, GALE — 1878, following September 27.
- HOFF (HUFF), DR. 1878, February 21; March 7. 1879, following April 20; May 20.
- HOFFMAN — 1879, August 30.
- HOGERSON, J. O. — 1879, following April 20.
- HOGERSON, LULU & LILLIAN — 1879, following April 20.
- HOLT, G. L. — 1879, August 30, September 30.
- HOOFMAN, TOM — 1878, August 27.

- HORNBACK, ANN — 1878, following January 30.
HORNBECK — 1879, February 2.
HOUSEMAN, ELLEN — 1879, following November 29.
HOUSEMAN, EMMA — 1879, following November 29.
HOUSEMAN, HENRY — 1879, following November 29.
HUFFMAN, TOM — 1878, April 15; October 29; December 31. 1879, January 7.
HUNTER — 1879, August 4, 5.
HUNTER, COLIN — 1878, January 18; February 1, 17; April 25; August 11, 15; September 3, 25. 1879, April 28, 29; August 13, 14, 23; September 30; October 14, 15, 22.
HUNTER (GOVT. FREIGHTER) — 1878, April 4. 1879, January 2.
HUNTER, LT. — 1878, April 15.
HUNTON, BLANCHE — 1878, following May 18.
HUNTON, TOM — 1878, February 17, 24, 28; March 12, 18; April 5, 12, 14, 30; June 13; August 17, 23, 31; September 6, 28, 30; October 1, 20, 31; November 8, 10, 12, 14; December 22, 23, 28, 30. 1879, January 7; February 8; March 4, 14; April 9, 10; May 19, 31; June 30; July 15; August 30; September 30; October 31; December 13, 14, 25, 31.
HURT, JOE — 1879, following September 12.
IRVINE — 1879, September 12.
IRVINE, BILLY — 1878, following August 23.
IRWIN (IRWINE) — 1878, May 1, 12, 13; October 22. 1879, May 14.
JACKSON, HUGH — 1878, December 23.
JAMES, FRANK — 1878, following April 4; November 22.
JAMES, JESSE — 1878, following November 22.
JANIS, NICK — 1878, April 5, 6.
JENNY (SQUAW) — 1879, December 3.
JESSE (LALLEE'S SISTER) — 1879, June 4, 30; October 31; December 20.
JOHNSON — 1878, October 27.

- JOHNSON, CAPT. 1879, following January 10.
JOHNSON, O. P. — 1878, following January 31.
JOHNSON, SKEW — 1878, May 27; June 9. 1879, October 18, 23, 24; December 11.
JOHNSON & WALKER — 1878, March 12; May 5; October 30, 31. 1879, September 5; October 25; December 11, 16.
JONES, D. W. (OR DR.) — 1879, December 10.
JOSEPH, DR. — 1878, August 20, 21, 22, 23, 31.
JULF, JAS. — 1878, December 31. 1879, July 31.
JUSTY, L. P. — 1878, February 2, 10, 28; March 31; April 30; May 8; July 7, 19, 22, 26, 29; September 17, 20, 21, 30; November 3. 1879, May 21, 23, 24, 25; November 15; December 6, 7, 8.
KAMER, JOE — 1878, January 29, 31; February 1, 28; April 8, 30.
KELAHA, MORRIS — 1879, January 1.
KELLAHER — 1879, January 24.
KELLOGG, HENRY — 1878, December 31.
KELLY, FRANK — 1879, April 25.
KELLY, HIRAM B. (HI) — 1878, January 22, 23; April 6, 13, 15, 20, 21, 30; May 2, 27; June 7; July 31; August 12, 13, 25; September 4, 30; November 13; December 19. 1879, Foreword; April 12, 25, 29; May 4, 7; August 12, 16, 17; October 8, 31; November 23; December 27, 29.
KELLY JOE — 1878, August 12.
KENDRICK, MRS. JOHN B. — 1879, following November 29.
KENNEDY, JOE — 1879, following December 17.
KENT, T. A. — 1878, January 31; May 2. 1879, January 8, 10; June 21; October 1, 3, 9.
KIMBARK, S. D — 1879, October 31.
KING, LT. CHARLES — 1878, March 22; April 23; May 11.
KIPP, N. — 1878, May 15, 31; November 19; December 3. 1879, March 4, 5, 10, 23, 24; April 12, 21; August 30; September 3, 30.
KNIGHT (NIGHT), DAVE — 1878, following August 23. 1879, December 15.

- LACY (LACEY), FRANK — 1879, February 13, 25; July 29.
- LADÉAU, ANTOINE — 1878, following November 30.
- LALLEE — 1878, January 30; February 8; April 30; May 24, 25, 26; August 9, 10, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 24, 31; September 23; October 29, 30; November 7, 12. 1879, January 9, 11, 25, 31; April 9, 10, 30; May 4; June 4, 30; October 1, 3, 31; December 20, 31.
- LANE, COL. — 1878, May 29, 30; June 4.
- LANE, JIM — 1878, September 4, 5. 1879, January 8, 9, 10; April 10, 13; May 5; September 28; December 5.
- LARIMER, A. V. — 1879, November 27.
- LATHAM, DAN — 1878, November 30.
- LEHMAN, DENNIE — 1879, following December 17.
- LE ROCQUE, MRS. — 1879, December 20.
- LEVERS, GEORGE (BLASKSMITH) — 1878, February 12, 17, 19, 23, 28; March 3, 31.
- LIESNER, HERMAN — 1878, October 5.
- LIND, JOHN — 1878, September 15; October 14; November 22; December 20, 21, 30. 1879, June 10, 27, 28.
- LISA — 1879, February 26.
- LITTLE WOLF, CHIEF — 1879, following January 10.
- LONDON, LT. — 1878, May 11.
- LONG, JOHN — 1878, March 31.
- LOOMIS — 1879, January 2.
- LORD, D. K. (DAVE) — 1878, April 4, 6. 1879, June 17; August 25, 26, 28, 29, 30; September 1, 7, 8, 27, 28, 29, 30; October 18, 22, 23; November 19.
- LORD & SMITH — 1878, November 18. 1879, June 10, 11, 28.
- LOUISE — 1879, December 20.
- MACFARLANE, W. F. — 1879, following November 21.

- MANSFIELD, BILLY — 1879, following December 10, 28.
- MARKEL — 1878, January 29.
- MARKS & MEYERS — 1879, November 29.
- MARTIN & MYERS — 1878, September 28.
- MARY — 1878, January 30.
- MASON, COL. JOHN S. — 1878, following March 22. 1879, May 17; July 7, 10.
- MASON, MAJ. — 1879, March 8.
- MATHEWSON — 1878, January 31.
- MATHEWS, TOM — 1878, February 2, 3, 4, 28; March 20, 21; May 8; June 29; September 22; November 11; December 1, 31. 1879, May 31, July 1, 15, 20, 31; August 22, 28; September 10, 30; November 29.
- MAXWELL — 1879, December 23.
- MAXWELL, TOM — 1878, November 13, 17.
- MAY — 1879, May 1.
- MAY, J. D. (JIM) — 1879, December 10.
- McCORMICK — 1879, April 16.
- McDANIEL'S (THEATRE) — 1878, January 8.
- McGUIRE, JAMES — 1879, July 17, 31; October 31; November 29.
- McKANN — 1879, April 13.
- McKAY — 1878, September 29.
- McKINSTRY — 1878, April 26.
- McLAUGHLIN, ARCHIE — 1879, following December 10, 28.
- McLEOD, DAN — 1879, September 30.
- McMILLAN, GEORGE — 1878, February 9, 21, 22, 28; March 11, 23; April 30; June 26; July 3; Dec. 8. 1879, February 25; March 29; May 17, 21, 31; June 5; July 16, 17, 28, 29; September 30; November 29.
- McULVANE, DAN — 1878, February 3; May 26; August 21. 1879, May 30.
- MEGEATH — 1878, May 30.
- MERRITT, GEN. — 1878, following March 22; May 21, 23; July 14, 22; October 27. 1879, October 1.
- MILBURN, JOHN — 1878, December 31.

- MILLER — 1878, January 31; October 22. 1879, September 30; October 10.
MILLER, BILL — 1879, December 19.
MILLER, C. F. — 1879, October 31.
MILLER, H. E. — 1879, September 30; October 31.
MILLER, TOBE — 1878, following September 6; October 30; November 30. 1879, January 24, 31; October 1.
MINER, WILLIAM — 1878, following September 27.
MISSOURI JIM — 1878, January 22.
MONROE, JIM — 1878, January 17, 22, 24; March 15; April 8; May 22, 23; August 1, 2; November 10, 13, 15. 1879, November 16.
MONTE VERDI, MADAME LURLINE — 1879, following December 28.
MOORE — 1879, September 13.
MOORE, CHARLY — 1878, May 9.
MOORE, LEE — 1878, following August 23.
MOORE, J. M. & CO. — 1878, March 22.
MORTON, MRS. EMMA C. C. — 1878, following August 23; 1879, following February 2; December 11.
MURPHY — 1878, August 17. 1879, January 28.
MURPHY, BLACKSMITH — 1878, April 27, 30.
MURPHY, W. H. — 1878, January 7; March 31; November 30. 1879, February 28; May 20, 31; June 30; December 31.
MURRAY, SCOTT — 1878, March 4, 16, 31; July 25, 31; September 8, 30.
MURRIN, LUKE — 1878, August 7.
MYERS, DAVE — 1878, March 19.
NAGLE, ERASMUS — 1878, February 19, 25, 28; April 30; May 28; June 6, August 21, 22, 25; September 4, 30; October 31. 1879, February 26; March 4, 23; April 22; July 31; August 30; September 30; November 26, 29.
NAGLE, GEORGE — 1879, following November 29.
NEWCOMB — 1879, October 9, 12.
NICKERSON, CAPT. — 1878, May 30.
NOBLE, W. P. — 1878, June 3. 1879, April 14; December 25.

- NUCKOLLS, S. F. — 1879, following October 31.
NUMPA — 1878, April 27, 30.
O'BRIEN, JACK — 1878, March 13.
OGG, BILL — 1878, March 22, 31.
OLIVEREAU, FRENCHY — 1879, following February 2.
OPENHEIMER — 1878, January 31.
ORGAN, PERRY — 1879, May 12.
ORR — 1878, September 29.
OSBORN — 1878, April 5, 23.
OWENS, JOHN — 1878, February 2, 4; April 5, 27; May 2, 21, 23, 24; July 31; October 23; December 12. 1879, March 10, 13; April 11, 30; May 7, 9, 10; June 21; December 11.
PARKER — 1878, March 6, 21, 22. 1879, May 1.
PATTON, W. L. — 1878, January 1; February 2, 3, 28; December 28. 1879, January 7.
PAULL, NANCY — 1878, following January 30.
PAULL, WILLIAM — 1878, following January 30.
PAXTON, WM. — 1879, August 30; September 12.
PAXTON & GALLAGHER — 1879, September 30.
PEACH — 1878, September 20.
PEASE — 1878, October 7.
PEASE, LT. — 1879, January 15.
PEYTON, MRS. PAULINE E. — 1878, following January 30.
PHILLIPS, F. M. (BUTCHER) — 1878, January 18, 24, 26, 29, 30; February 1, 2; April 3, 25, 26; May 26; August 1, 11, 12, 28; September 28. 1879, Foreword; January 6, 8; April 7, 28; August 22, 23; December 7.
PHILLIPS, MRS. F. M. — 1879; January 6, 7.
PHILLIPS, JOHN (PORTUGEE) — 1878, January 16; May 21; October 22. 1879, October 28; November 9, 10, 16; December 21, 22.
PHILLIPS, SQUAW — 1878, August 10.
PIERSON, H. — 1879, August 30; October 31.
PLAYER — 1878, September 26.
POLLOCK, CAPT. EDWIN C. — 1878, July 15, 18, 19; November 28.
PORTER, JIM — 1878, May 30.

- POURIER, BAPTISTE (BIG BAT) — 1878, April 17; August 8, 9; September 30. 1879, September 5; October 20.
- POWELL, GEORGE — 1878, January 30; February 9, 11, 13, 21, 22, 23, 26, 27, 28; March 11, 17, 18, 27; June 22, 26, 29; September 20; December 8, 31. 1879, January 25; February 15; March 2, 4, 8, 12, 17, 24; July 13; August 14; October 31.
- POWELL, GERTRUDE — 1878, following March 27.
- POWELL, CAPT. JAMES — 1879, April 5.
- POWELL, MAJ. — 1879, July 21.
- POWELL, MAUD — 1878, following March 27.
- PRAGER (PRAYGER) FRANK — 1879, January 16.
- PRATT (PRATTE) J. H. — 1879, April 13; September 12; December 30.
- RAMSEY, JOHN — 1878, February 16; March 3. 1879, October 5.
- RED CLOUD, CHIEF — 1879, following April 5.
- REDFERN, E. H. — 1879, December 31.
- REED, TOM — 1878, April 4.
- REEL, A. H. (HECK) — 1878, March 25; May 12, 21; October 5; November 2, 11, 17, 18; December 31. 1879, January 14; February 15; April 24, 25, 26; June 21; September 30; October 1, 4.
- RHEMEYER — 1878, December 29.
- RICHARD (RESHAW), PETE — 1879, December 9.
- ROADS, RUFUS — 1879, November 10.
- ROBERTS — 1879, December 16.
- ROBERTSON, N. — 1879, November 29.
- ROGERS, SURVEYOR — 1878, May 23; October 22, 23, 31.
- ROSS, CHARLIE — 1879, following December 28.
- RUSSELL — 1879, October 13.
- RUSSELL, D. H. — 1878, September 30.
- RYAN, POSEY — 1878, January 29, 31; February 1, 28. 1879, January 20.
- SANDERS, JACK — 1878, following September 6.
- SAWYER, WARREN — 1879, following October 21.
- SAWYER & POLLARD — 1879, October 21.

- SAXBY — 1879, October 9.
SCHENCK — 1878, May 28.
SCHMIDT, MATILDA — 1878, following December 31.
SCHWARTZ, FRED W. — 1878, January 4; September 25; October 31; December 18, 31. 1879, April 24; May 9; June 23; September 7; October 31.
SCHWARTZ, MRS. FRED — 1878, following September 25.
SCHWARTZ, MINNA — 1878, following September 25.
SCOGILLE, MAGGIE — 1878, following March 27.
SEARIGHT — 1879, December 19.
SEMINOLE, MICH — 1879, March 24; June 30.
SEMINOLE, NOEL — 1878, following December 31.
SHAW, JIM — 1878, following August 23. 1879, following December 17.
SHERMAN — 1879, March 23.
SHIEDLY — 1879 — September 12.
SHIRL — 1878, following August 23.
SHUTZ, FRED — 1878, November 30.
SISTER (SIS) — 1878, March 12; April 13.
SLAUGHTER, JOHN — 1878, following August 17; November 22.
SLEEPER, DANIEL — 1878, December 31.
SMALLEY, BENJAMIN — 1878, June 18, 25.
SMILY, WM. — 1878, April 30.
SMITH — 1878, following September 27.
SMITH, ED — 1878, February 19, 20, 21; September 15; December 31. 1879, February 9, April 11, 27; October 31; November 24, 29.
SMITH, EDWIN C. — 1878, following January 30; February 9; March 3.
SMITH, JOHN R. — 1878, January 4, 5, 11; April 30; July 4; August 16; October 5; November 30. 1879, Foreword, following August 22.
SMITH, GEN. KIRBY — 1878, following July 8.
SMITH, MRS. OMIE — 1878, following April 30.
SMITH & HARRINGTON — 1879, September 30; December 31.

- SMITH & LORD — 1878, September 21.
SNOW — 1878, October 27.
SNYDER (SNIDER), E. U. & CO. — 1878, April 5, 6; May 12; July 4, 13, 16, 18, 19, 20, 31; September 16, 30. 1879, March 4; April 12, 20, 21, 22; July 6; August 30.
SODEN, MRS. LUCY KELLOGG — 1878, following December 31.
SPANG, AL — 1879, September 30; November 14, 29.
SPATES, COL. — 1879, April 19.
SPENCER, AL — 1878, January 1.
SPRING, AGNES WRIGHT — 1878, following May 18, June 18; September 25. 1879, following January 18; May 7; June 11; August 1; September 26; December 10, 28.
ST. CLAIR, JOHN — 1878, December 31.
ST. DENNIS, FRED — 1879, January 17; November 21, 29.
STEBBINS-POST & CO. — 1878, February 5, 28; March 22, 31; April 13; May 20, 31; June 30; July 31; August 17; September 4, 30; October 31; November 17, 30; December 17, 31. 1879, February 18, 26, 28; March 4, 23; April 12; May 31; June 20, 30; July 31; August 30; September 30; October 31; November 3, 20, 29.
STEPHENS & WILCOX — 1878, June 30. 1879, April 19; October 31.
STEWART, JOHN — 1879, April 13.
STIRK, RICHARD (DICK) — 1878, January 29, 30; March 11, 31; April 8, 30.
STODARD & LAPHAM — 1879, August 22.
STUART, CHARLY — 1878, May 11.
SULLIVAN — 1878, January 3.
SULLIVAN, JOE — 1878, April 30.
SULLIVAN, W. W. — 1878, April 30.
SUN, TOM — 1878, following January 31.
SWAN — 1878, October 20. 1879, June 2, August 23.
SWAN, A. H. — 1878, September 5.
SWAN BROTHERS COMPANY — 1879, following September 16.

- SWAN, HENRY — 1878, September 5. 1879, September 16. •
SWAN, TOM — 1878, September 5.
SWAN, WILL — 1879, September 16.
TALLY, THE BLACKSMITH — 1879, February 14.
TAR-SHE-NAH-ZE — 1878, August 18.
TAYLOR — 1879, July 9, 10.
TAYLOR, JIM — 1879, September 16.
TAYLOR, JOE — 1878, June 22.
TERRY & HUNTER — 1878, January 22.
TESCHEMACHER, ARTHUR M. — 1879, following December 9.
TESCHEMACHER, HUBERT E. — 1879, December 9.
THAYER — 1879, August 6, 30.
THAYER, G. D. — 1879, July 31.
THAYER, GOV. JOHN M. — 1878, June 30; September 18; November 7. 1879, June 11, 30.
THEIS, NICK (BLACKSMITH) — 1878, November 30; December 1.
THOMAS, GEORGE — 1879, September 15, 16.
THOMASSON, ZACH — 1878, October 20. 1879, September 28; December 15.
THORNBURG, MAJ. — 1879, October 1, 2.
THORNBURG, MARION — 1878, following October 5.
THORP, RUSSELL, JR. — 1878, following September 25. 1879, following May 1.
THORP, RUSSELL, SR. — 1879, May 1.
TILLOTSON, E. — 1878, March 5, 17; June 22; September 8, 16; November 2, 30. 1879, February 28; April 5; July 6, 31; August 27, 30; September 13; October 28, 31; November 29.
"TIP" — 1878, March 12. 1879, March 14.
TITUS, DAN — 1878, January 24, 26, 27; February 4, 5; May 14, 18, 23, 24; June 10, 11; August 17, 18, 19, 25, 30, 31; September 23; October 20, 21; December 22, 23, 28, 29.
1879, January 20, 21, 23; February 8, 12, 13, 17, 18; March 14, 16, 26, 28; May 9, 19, 25; June 7, 30; July 13, 20, 21, 31; September 4;

- October 14, 15, 16, 23, 31; November 15, 17, 26; December 13, 31.
- TOBIN, PAT — 1878, following December 31.
- TOWNSEND, MAJ. — 1878, May 21.
- TRABING — 1878, November 22.
- TRACY, H. S. — 1879; January 17; November 29.
- TRENHOLM, VIRGINIA COLE — 1878, following August 23; September 6; October 5. 1879, following April 15; August 22; December 17.
- TRUFANT — 1879, August 16.
- UNDERWOOD, GEORGE — 1878, October 31.
- VAN DE WALKER — 1878, January 24.
- VAN VLIET, CAPT. & COL. — 1879, December 11.
- VIA, GEORGE — 1878, September 18, 19; November 14, 15, 30. 1879, January 19; February 9.
- VOORHEES, LUKE — 1878, following September 27.
- WADE — 1879, January 15.
- WAGNER, H — 1879, April 15.
- WALKER — 1879, May 14; June 12; September 4.
- WALKER, BOB — 1878, October 20. 1879, August 22; December 11.
- WALKER, MRS. BOB — 1878, October 20. 1879, December 11.
- WALN, BOB — 1879, May 19; September 27; October 12, 18, 19, 26, 31.
- WALN, J. W. — 1878, December 31.
- WALN, L. D. (LUM) — 1879, August 1; September 30; October 31.
- WALN, MAJ. — 1878, August 4.
- WALN, W. L. (BILL) — 1878, April 8, 9, 13, 28, 29; May 5, 8, 10, 21; June 30; September 30; October 31; November 30; December 7, 10, 12, 13, 17.
- 1879, February 2; March 14; April 19, 20, 26; May 18, 19, 23, 24, 25, 26; June 5, 7, 12, 28, 30; July 31; August 13, 30; September 5, 27, 29, 30.
- WARD — 1879, Foreword; April 29; June 15, 16; July 1; August 27; September 3.
- WARD, JOHN O. — 1878, February 26; March 18, 19, 31.

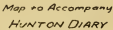
- WARNER — 1879, December 17.
WARNER, BROS. — 1879, following December 9.
WARNER, E. H. — 1879, January 20; December 2.
WARREN, FRANCIS E. — 1878, following June 18;
August 23. 1879, August 30.
WASHINGTON, GEORGE — 1879, following September 9.
WEBSTER, LT. — 1878, May 11; September 11;
November 21.
WEBSTER, TOM — 1878, April 29.
WHAM, MAJ. (PAYMASTER) — 1878, March 5,
17; May 11, 12; December 30.
WHIPPLE — 1878, October 22. 1879, August 18.
WHIPPLE & SAWYER — 1878, May 20, 31.
WHITCOMB, ELIAS W. — 1878, May 19.
WIEDMAN (FT. McKINNEY SUTLER) — 1878,
July 5. 1879, May 9.
WILD, CHARLEY — 1878, February 1; April 19,
28, 29, 30; May 22; June 9, 10, 17, 19, 24, 30;
July 5, 18. 1879, January 3, 23; September 2.
WILEY, CHARLY — 1878, May 9.
WILLAN, DOUGLAS — 1879, following December
17.
WILLIAMS — 1879, November 9, 10.
WILLIAMS, BILL — 1878, November 8. 1879,
June 30.
WILLIAMS, JACK — 1879, January 3.
WILLON — 1878, February 19.
WILSON — 1878, February 19.
WILSON, BILL — 1878, following October 5.
WILSON, P. G. (POSEY) — 1878, November 22.
WILSON, P. L. — 1879, November 29.
WINTERLING — 1879, August 22; October 14.
WINTERLING, JOHN — 1878, January 1, 22; February 6;
August 12, 17.
WOLCOTT (WOOLCOTT), "MAJ." FRANK — 1878,
July 25; November 15. 1879, February 16, 19;
March 8, 25; May 24; July 18, 19, 27, 29; August 28;
December 5.
WOODSON, CAPT. — 1878, September 11.

- WOOLSEY, THEODORE D. — 1879, following December 9.
WORRELL, BILL — 1878, following October 5.
WRIGHT, CHARLIE — 1878, February 1.
WULFJEN, C. W. — 1878, January 25; February 1; April 5, 25, 30; August 22; September 5, 6. 1879, June 24; November 29.
YATES — 1878, September 7.
YATES, F. D. (FRANK) — 1878, May 29; June 2, 3, 4; December 31.
ZIMMER, BILL — 1879, October 31; November 6, 29.

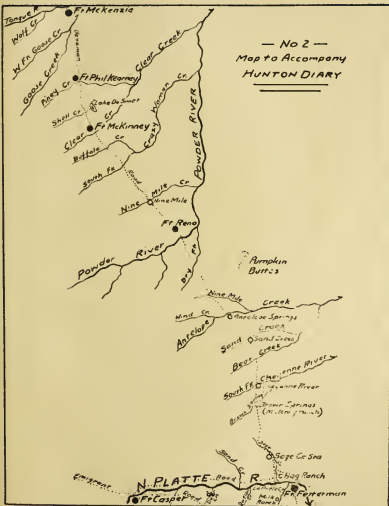
ILLUSTRATIONS

- OLD BEDLAM — March 22, 1878.
BILL BULLOCK — May 18, 1878.
HENRY W. KELLOGG, Bullwhacker — December 31, 1878.
THE HOUSE BISHOP & KELLOGG BUILT — December 31, 1878.
FIRST LOG CABIN AT BORDEAUX — May 7, 1879.
WARREN SAWYER, Early Homesteader — October 21, 1879.
J. M. CAREY'S CABIN, on Box Elder — October 31, 1879.
E. NAGLE, Pioneer Merchant — November 29, 1879.





Courtesy of L. C. Bishop, C. E., Cheyenne, Wyo.



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